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HISTORICAL NOTES

OF THE

COUNTIES

OF

Glamorgan, Carmarthen, & Cardigan,

AND A LIST OF THE

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT FOR SOUTH WALES,

FROM HENRY VIII, TO CHARLES II.

BY JOHN ROWLANDS,

(GIRALDUS,)

Late Librarian at Thirlestaine House, Cheltenham.

CARDIFF:

PRINTED BY HUGH BIRD, DUKE STREET.

1866.

KD57452



Francis C. Corbridge Esq.

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HISTORICAL NOTES, &c.

GLAMORGANSHIRE.

Ancient Cardiff.

THE town derives its name from "Caer-Taff," or "Caer Dâf," the fortress on the Tâf; but the etymology of the present name "Caerdydd" is not so easily determined. Some are of opinion that "Caerdydd" means "Caer Didi," probably so called after Aulus Didius, the Roman general, who erected a fort here previous to the arrival of Julius Frontinus. This general constructed the great Roman road "Julia Martima." The Roman station anciently occupying this site, is supposed to be Ratostabias, or Ratostibius of Ptolemy, from which the parish of Roath takes its name, and by others Tibia Amnis of Antonine, which Richard of Cirencester, between Isca Silurum and Bovicum, now called "Caerau," a short distance from Cardiff. The town of Cardiff was originally built by Morgan ab Hywel ab Rhys. From the departure of the Romans till the conquest of Glamorgan, very little is known of its history. It appears that the seat of the government at the death of the renowned King Arthur, was removed from Caerleon to Cardiff by Morgan his son, in order to avoid the incursions of the Saxons. Cardiff became the capital of the kingdom of Gwent; and it continued so until its destruction by Cadwaladr, after which it was rebuilt by Morgan ab Hywel, about the year 900; but, it met with a similar fate in a short time afterwards. Caradoc of Llancarfan says it was rebuilt by Jestyn ab Gwrgant, who also erected a castle at Cardiff, and another in honour of his wife at Dinas Powis. Jestyn and Rhys ab Tewdwr

were at variance, and in order to have revenge on the Lord of Dynevor, he made an agreement with one Einon ab Collwyn, who was also at enmity with Rhys ab Tewdwr. This Einon had been in the service of William the Conqueror. Jestyn promised him the lordship of Miskin and his daughter in marriage, if he (Einon) could secure the assistance of the Norman Knights to assist him in conquering Rhys ab Tewdwr. According to this stipulation, Einon hastened to London and engaged one Robert Fitz Hamon, a relation of the king, aided by other Norman Knights, they came to Glamorgan and joined Jestyn's forces, and commenced active hostilities. The contending armies met at Hirwain Wrgan, where Rhys was defeated, and lost nearly all his troops. Some historians say that he was beheaded in a secluded valley where he had escaped; but, Mr. Theophilus Jones, the learned author of the History of Brecknockshire, is of opinion that he fled after the battle to the territory of his brother-in-law, Bleddyn ab Maenarch, and that he was present at the battle of Caerbannau, where he was slain. Jestyn having subdued his enemy, refused to fulfil his promise with Einon, who becoming enraged at Jestyn's conduct hastened after the Normans, who had commenced their journey home, and he represented to them Jestyn's faithlessness, and induced their commander to retrace his steps. Many of the native chieftains who had become alienated from Jestyn on account of his tyranny and unprincipled conduct, joined the Normans, and suddenly came upon Jestyn at Mynydd Bychan, where he was defeated and was obliged to seek safety in flight; he became an outcast and wandered from place to place in a state of great destitution. At last he found an asylum at the monastery of Llangennys, where he ended his days at the advanced age of 129!

Fitz Hamon became the sole master of Glamorgan, parted it between his followers, taking the "lion's share" to himself. He enlarged and almost built the town; he took down the castle, erecting in its place a durable and magnificent structure, the remains of which, are still to be seen standing majestically defying the elements and the rude hands of man. In this castle the Lords of Glamorgan held their county courts, their court of chancery and exchequer; and here the twelve Knights who owned the different baronies, subject to the paramount lordship,

were obliged by their tenures to attend on a certain day in every month, each having separate apartments in the outer ward of the castle, till the day after holding the county court, at which the sheriff presided to determine the causes of equity, arising within his jurisdiction. The Norman Lords ruled the natives with a heavy hand; and whilst the Normans were continuing their conquest in Gower, the Welsh rose in a body to shake off this yoke in the year 1094; they were joined by Payne Tuberville, one of Fitz Hamon's Knights, whose family still reside in this county. This army took several castles, and put the garrisons to the sword, and advanced upon Cardiff Castle, and Fitz Hamon was obliged to restore to the Welsh their ancient laws and customs. The unfortunate Robert Duke of Normandy, who was unsuccessful in maintaining his right to the English Crown was taken prisoner by his unnatural brother, Henry the First, who committed him to Cardiff Castle, into the custody of Fitz Hamon. On one occasion he made an attempt to escape, in consequence of which, his eyes were cruelly put out.

He spent 28 years of his life in the castle, where he died, and was buried at Gloucester. During his imprisonment, he acquired a knowledge of the Welsh language. His place of imprisonment was one of the towers near the entrance. Through the intercession of Ifor Bach, "Ifor the Little," he was allowed to go twelve miles round the Castle. Robert Earl of Gloucester, natural son of King Henry the First, married Mabel, daughter of Fitz Hamon, and succeeded his father-in-law to the Lordship of Glamorgan. He also attempted to enforce the feudal system, but this piece of tyranny aroused the Welsh once more, who were led by Ifor ab Cadifor, lord of Caerphilly. They marched to Cardiff Castle, and took it by storm, and Robert and his wife, and the "Blind Duke," fell into their hands; but, they were ransomed by the King, and they entered into an agreement not to molest the Welsh any more, who were allowed to enjoy their ancient rights. There is a beautiful picture of this siege to be seen in the Town Hall, at Cardiff.

Robert lost no time in strengthening the Castle and town of Cardiff against a similar attack; he built a wall round the town,

and encompassed the whole with a ditch, communicating it above and below with the river Taff.

HENRY THE SECOND.

IN the year 1172, Henry the Second, on his way to Ireland, passed through Cardiff, and on his return he slept one night here. On the first Sunday after Easter, he attended mass at St. Prian's Chapel, in Shoemaker street, now called by a more respectable name, "Duke street." That Chapel stood on or near the spot where the Guardian office now stands. There was a hall here called the "Shoemakers' Hall." The Shoemakers were a Corporate body,—they were united with another Company. A great many of their records are still in existence.

As King Henry mounted his horse at the door, a man of fair complexion, with a round tonsure and meagre countenance, tall, and about forty years of age, habited in a white robe, falling to his naked feet, thus addressed him—"God hold the Caing," which signifies, "May God protect you King," and proceeded—"Christ and his Holy Mother, John the Baptist and the Apostle Peter salute thee, and command thee strictly to prohibit throughout thy whole dominions, every kind of buying or selling on Sundays, and not to suffer any work to be done on those days, (except such as relates to the preparation of daily food,) and that due attention be paid to the performance of Divine Service. If thou doest all this, all thy undertaking shall be successful, and thou shalt lead a happy life." The King, in French, desired Phillip de Mercross, who held his horse, to ask the rustic if he dreamt all this; and, when the soldier explained to him the King's question in English, he replied: "Whether I dreamed it or not, observe what I say! addressing himself to the King—"And unless thou shalt do so, and quickly amend thy life before the expiration of one year, thou shalt hear such things concerning what thou lovest best in this world, and shalt thereby be so much troubled that thy disquietude will continue into thy life's end." The King spurring his horse, and proceeded a little way, when he suddenly stopped, and ordered one of his attendants to go and look for the good man. They sought him in vain in all the inns of the town. After

waiting a long time, the King proceeded on his journey, and grievously vexed that he did not speak more to him. Giraldus says—"That this fatal prediction came to pass in one year. His unfaithful sons deserted him, and joined the King of France."

Archbishop Baldwin and Giraldus Cambrensis visited Cardiff, whilst preaching to the Crusades through Wales. They preached at Llandaff the next morning, where many joined the Crusades.

OWAIN GLYNDWR IN GLAMORGAN.

"Up rose the hero,—on his piercing eye
Sat observation; on each glance of thought
Decision followed, as a thunderbolt
Pursues the flash.
Ev'n to the dullest peasant standing by,
Who fastening still on him a wondrous eye,
He seem'd the master spirit of the land."

In the reign of Henry the Fourth, owing to the oppression of Lord Grey of Ruthin, a war broke out under the leadership of Owain Glyndwr, son of Gruffudd Fychan, of Glyndyfrdwy. Owain Glyndwr was educated for the Bar, at the Inner Temple, and was a great favourite with the unfortunate monarch, Richard the Second. In a short time a large number of his countrymen assembled round his standard. He marched to South Wales and destroyed a great number of castles, &c. In the year 1404 he came to Cardiff and besieged the town and castle which he took. Having obtained possession of the town, he destroyed the whole with the exception of one street, in which was a Priory of Friars Minor, who were favourable to his cause. He then became master of the castle, which he destroyed in a great measure. At that time there was a considerable quantity of treasure deposited there for security, which was carried away by Owain. The priory stood at the eastern extremity of the town, and was dedicated to St. Francis. Some sixty years ago there were to be seen a great quantity of the remains of this edifice. It continued till the dissolution of religious houses by Henry the Eighth. The value of this house is not mentioned by Speed. After the dissolution the

property came into the possession of the Herberts, who were great lords and owners in Wales, and to whom Cardiff Castle gave a title, while it owned their jurisdiction. They had large possessions in Gwent as well as Glamorgan, as the Games had in Brecknockshire. The titles attached to this house are the most numerous and honourable of the peerage. They were the Earls of Pembroke and Montgomery, Barons Herberts of Cardiff, Ross, Kendal, Parr, Fitzhugh, Marmion, Saint Quintin, and Herbert of Shutland, and they were generally Knights of the Garter. The eldest son took the title of Lord Herbert. Their property at Cardiff, however, with their castles and lordships in this county, have gone to another family, by intermarriages. It appears that the Herberts have no possessions in Wales at present. Their property at Cardiff has become the property of the Bute family as stated, and we heartily wish long life and happiness to the noble owner of Cardiff Castle; no members of this house have done so much for the ancient borough of Cardiff as the present family. The connection of the Herberts with the literary as well as the political history of this country, will hand their names down to posterity. In the year 1570 a congress, or an eisteddfod, of the bards of Glamorgan, was held at Cardiff Castle, under the patronage of William Herbert, the Earl of Pembroke, for the purpose of collecting and digesting the laws of their order. A branch of this family resided at Cogan Pill, now the residence of J. S. Corbett, Esq.

There was another monastery at Cardiff: it was situated on the western side of the town, and was dedicated to St. Francis. After Owain Glyndwr won the town and the castle of Cardiff, he demolished a great number of others—Penlline, Landough, Flemingstone, Dunraven of the Butlers, Talyvan, Llanblethian, Llanguan, Malefant, and Penmark,—and burnt several villages and churches; amongst others, Llanfyrnach, Aberthin, and many houses at Llantwit Major, where the men would not join him; but many people joined him, and they with one accord demolished houses and castles innumerable. They took great quantities of property, and distributed it amongst the poor. The King's men met Owain's army on a hill in the neighbourhood, called Bryn Owain. After eighteen hours' hard fighting the King's men were

put to flight. During the battle the blood was up to the horses' fetlocks at Pantwennol, that separates both ends of the mountain which is now called Stalling Down.—*M.S. of the Rev. Thomas Bassett, of Llan-y-lai.*

Sir Lawrence Berkrolles at this time resided at East Orchard, St. Athans. He was a descendant of one of Fitz Hamon's knights, who received the castle at the general spoliation of the county of Glamorgan. One day a gentleman and his servant, both being unarmed, for no persons were safe going about armed, went to the Castle. They were heartily welcomed, and the best things in the Castle were laid before them. The conversation was carried on in French. Sir Lawrence was highly pleased and he earnestly entreated them to remain, observing that he expected Owain Glyndwr there in a few days; he had dispatched all his tenants and servants to seize him wherever they could find him, dead or alive. Owain answered, "It would be very well, indeed, to secure that man, were any person able to do so." After spending four days at the Castle, Owain thought it wise to depart. On leaving he gave his hand to Sir Lawrence, and addressed him, "Owain Glyndwr, as a sincere friend, having neither hatred, treachery, nor deception in his heart, gives his hand to Sir Lawrence Berkrolles, and thanks him for his kindness and gentlemanly reception, which he and his friend, in the guise of a servant, experienced from him at his Castle, and desires to assure him, on oath, hand in hand and hand on heart, that it will never enter his mind to avenge the intentions of Sir Lawrence towards him, and that he will not, as far as he may, allow such desires to exist in his own knowledge and memory, nor in the minds of any of his relations or adherents." He then departed. Sir Lawrence was struck dumb with astonishment, and never afterwards recovered his speech, no word having henceforth ever escaped his lips.—*Iolo, MSS.*

Sir Lawrence could say with Dryden, in answer to Owain Glyndwr:—

"Can you forgive the follies of my passion,
For I have been to blame, oh, much to blame,
Have said such words, nay, done such actions too.
Base as I am, that my awed conscious soul
Sinks in my breast, nor dare I lift an eye
On him I have offended."

Ewenny Abbey.

THE foundation of this priory is ascribed both by Leland and by Tanner to John De Londres, but there is no such name in the pedigree of this family by Sir Edward Stradling, which appeared in "Powell's Cambria." From an old monument in the church it appears that it was the pious work of Morris, or Maurice De Londres, the fourth in descent from William De Londres, into whose lot the lordship fell at the conquest of Glamorgan by Fitz Hamon. This establishment belonged to the Benedictine order, it comprised only three monks. There is a difference of opinion among antiquarians respecting its revenues, no correct estimate can be formed of the amount. It was a cell of St. Peter's at Gloucester, as a part of the possessions of that house were granted in the twenty-seventh year of Henry the Eighth's reign, to Sir Edward Carne, "an eminent civilian." It remained in his family many years, when it was transferred to the Tubervilles of Coity. The church is dedicated to St. Michael, like many other churches in Glamorgan. The chancel has been used since the Reformation as a burial-place of the Carnes and Tubervilles. In the South transept there is one in the altar-form which is usually ascribed to Paganus De Tuberville; but this is not correct, it was erected to commemorate some knight a friend of the family. It bears the following inscription:—"Sire Roger De Remi Gist Isci De Den Son Almi Eit Merci, A.M." Some years ago, the seal of Isabel, daughter of William Earl of Gloucester, together with her own titles, was found here. She had for her dower the Lordship of Glamorgan, and was married first to Prince John, youngest son of King Henry the Second, from who she was divorced; when he fell into trouble with the barons he wandered into Wales to seek her out, and seeing his forlorn condition she had compassion on him, and he was sheltered at her palace at Boverton for several months, under the assumed name of Alain Fitz Gerald. Her second husband was Herbert De Burgh, the Earl of Essex. Ewenny was noted for its earthenware, which was manufactured for upwards of three centuries; the shape of the vessels were similar to the Roman vessel, and

some suppose that the works were carried on from their time. Many of the Welsh Bards, three hundred years ago, in their writings, frequently allude to them.

Caerau.

THERE are many places in the Principality bearing the same name. There is a place called Caerau in Breconshire, and another in the county of Pembroke. This place derives its name from an old Roman encampment, called "*Tibia Amne.*" This encampment occupies the summit of a hill ten or twelve acres oblong, and nearly rectangular in figure. The parish church of Caerau, a plain, old building, is situated within the camp. The Roman road from Bath to Menevia, or St. David's, passed near this camp, and it is probable that it was constructed to defend the passage. The road was made by Julius Frontinus. It was called after him, "*Via Julia Martima.*" The course of the road was along the sea coast, from Cardiff to Carmarthen. It entered that county at Lougher—"Leucarum" of the Itineraries. Between this place and Penllergaer, the residence of Mr. Dillwyn Llewellyn, there is another encampment. The "*Porta Decumana*" is to be seen to the west of the camp at Caerau, and at the east end, the general's tent. Caerau must have borne that designation long before the church was built. The church was built by Gyweirydd, son of Brochfael, King of Glamorgan, who was a wise but unfortunate Prince. It appears that in his time the country suffered from diseases, and rough and uncongenial seasons, "being the calamities of the wickedness and depravity of the age." Gyweirydd had a mansion at Caerau; but held his court at Cardiff. His father, Brochfael, was the first to restore Cardiff from its Roman ruins to the rank of a place of populous residence. On the further side of the ravine, to the east of Caerau church, there were some remains of a cottage, garden, and orchard, where an old man, of the name of William Edwards, resided. It was called, "*Ty yr Hen Ddyn*" (the Old Man's House). He lived to the extraordinary age of 168 years! He lived during the sixteenth century, and nearly 70 years of the

seventeenth century. In the time of the talented Iolo Morganwg, there was to be seen in the churchyard a tombstone, under the south window. Mr. Williams took a fac-simile of it. Soon after a Goth of a parish clerk, who had no regard for its antiquity, removed it, and converted it into a hearthstone, with the inscription downwards, and it was destroyed by the heat. Dr. Malkin says, in his "*Scenery of South Wales*," that "This is one of the many glaring instances of neglected duty on the part of parochial authorities, by which our churches have been successively despoiled of the venerable remains of antiquity; and justice demands that the officiating ministers should doubly partake of the censure so undeniably incurred; for they could neither plead non-attendance nor want of education to palliate, not only their total want of taste, but also their disregard of kindred associations and of the sanctuary of the dead." I am sorry to add that this Vandalic spirit is still prevalent in Wales. A short time ago an old druidical circle, in the parish of Ysphyty-Cynfyn, was demolished, and the stones carried away to build a barn at an adjoining farm house. The inscription on the tombstone, as it was copied by Iolo Morganwg was as follows:—

"Oh, happy change, and ever blest,
When grief and pain is changed to rest.

"Heare Lieth the body of Vaughan Edwards Gwent, Deceased 4 Day of
December, Anno Domini, 1669."

"Heare lieth the body of William Edwards Cairey, who departed this life the
24th of February, Anno Domini, 1668. Annoque Sui 168."

In the journal of an old schoolmaster, of the name of William Thomas, commonly called "*William yr Ysgolhaig*," who lived about eighty years ago, there are some curious entries respecting this parish and its inhabitants.

Bewper Castle.

THE SITSYLLT FAMILY.

BEWPER Castle, or Beupre, was one of the finest and most elegant mansions in Wales; but it is now in ruins. This was the favourite residence of the Sitsyllt family. Llewellyn ab Sitsyllt,

who by right of his wife inherited the Principality, frequently held his court here. The property continued in the family till it was sold to Sir Phillip Basset, Lord of St. Hilary, Chief Justice of England, in the reign of King John. In the year 1681, a regular congress of Welsh bards was held at this castle under the patronage of Sir Richard Basset. In the year 1020, a Scot of low birth assumed the name of Rhun, son of Meredith, the late King, and succeeded in raising an army to oppose Llewellyn. Great numbers of Welsh Chieftains joined his standard, owing to some old feud that existed between them and Llewellyn. Llewellyn gathered a large army and marched them to Carmarthenshire, and the contending armies met on a plain near the village of Abergwili. The Scot urged his men to fight, at the same time promising them Victory, but he withdrew himself from the field of battle. The assumed Rhun's army was discomfited, and he was closely pursued by Llewellyn, and with all his (Rhun) shifts he could not save his life. Llewellyn carried home great spoil after the battle. The noble families of Cecil, Earls of Exeter and Salisbury, are descended from this house.

LIST OF THE EARLS OF EXETER AND SALISBURY.

1. Robert Sitsyllt.
2. James Sitsyllt, Esq.
3. John Sitsyllt, Esq.; married Maud de Frenes.
4. Eustace Sitsyllt, Esq.; married Eleanor, daughter of Sir William Pembridge, Knight.
5. Sir Baldwin Sitsyllt, Knight, *temp.* Hen. *secundi*; married a daughter of Maurice de Brampton, Esq.
6. Gerald Sitsyllt, Esq.; married Mavil, daughter to Sir Moygne, Knight.
7. Robert Sitsyllt, Esq.; married Alice, daughter of Sir Robert Trogois, Knight.
8. James Sitsyllt, Esq.; married Isabel, daughter of Sir John Knell, Knight.
9. Gerald Sitsyllt; married Margaret, daughter to Stephen de Ber.
10. John Sitsyllt, Esq.; married Sibil, daughter to Robert of Ewyjas, Esquire.

11. Sir John Sitsyllt, Knight; married Alice, sister to Sir Richard Baskerville, Knight.

12. John Sitsyllt, Esq.; married Joan, daughter to Sir Richard Monington, Knight.

13. Thomas Sitsyllt, Esq.; married Margaret, daughter and heiress to Gilbert de Winston, Esq.

14. Phillip Sitsyllt, Esq.; married Margaret, daughter to John Phillips, Esq.

15. Richard Sitsyllt, or Cecil, Knight; married Margaret, daughter of Phillip Vaughan, Esq.

16. David Cecil, Esq.

17. Sir William Cecil, Baron Burley, Knight of the Garter; married Mary, sister to Sir John Cheek, Knight.

Barry Island. &c.

THIS island is situated on the northern shore of the Bristol Channel, a short distance from Cadoxton. It belonged to the family of Giraldus de Barry; and it is supposed that it was so called from the *Barri* or *Barry* family, who were lords of the island; others are of opinion, that it derives its name from *Baruch*, a hermit, who, according to Cressy, died about 700, who

"Unknown to public view,
From youth to age a reverend hermit grew;
The moss his bed, the cave his humble cell;
His food the fruits, his drink the crystal well;
Remote from man, with God he passed his days;
Prayer, all his business, all his pleasure, praise."

Those small islands which skirt our coasts were the favourite resort of people in those days. It is said that no less than 40,000 men retired to the small island of Bardsey, on the Carnarvonshire coast, to die. The ground was considered, until lately, consecrated. Mr. Pennant visited the island, and he says that the boatmen who rowed the boat took off their hats as they approached the island. Giraldus says that "an hermit lived on the Flat Holmes, where he was buried." Leland, the antiquarian, paid a visit to the island. In his time, there was a small church,

called St. Baruch's chapel; but it has disappeared, and its very foundations rooted up. Sir Richard Hoare, in his translation of Giraldus Itin says—"That near the entrance of the island, there was a small cave, to which if the ear was applied, a noise is heard like that of smiths at work, and blowing their bellows, strokes of hammers, grinding of tools, and roaring of furnaces; and it might easily be imagined that such noises, which are continued at the ebb and flow of the tides, were occasioned by the influx of the sea under the cavities of the rock." In the southern part of the island, at a point called "Nell's Point," there is a well, to which great numbers of the gentler sex were in the habit of visiting on Holy Thursday, for the purpose of washing their eyes at the spring, and dropping a pin into it. The landlord of a house close by, told Sir Richard Hoare that on cleaning the well, he took a pint of votive offerings. On the northern side of the island stands the small church of Barry, and the village of New Leland. "It standeth on a hill, and the most of it is ruine. Master St. John of Bedfordshir is lord of it. Maurice St. John, uncle to Sir John St. John, was owner of it."—*Lelan's Itin*.

Between the village of Barry and Cadoxton there are some extensive ruins of a castellated mansion. From its present appearance, we presume it was a place of some note. A family of the name of Andrews resided here, who came to this country with Fitz Hamon. The pigeon house is still in a good state of preservation. The owner must have had a great delight in the feathered tribe. Mr. John Bland, of Sully, bought the property attached to it some time ago, and we have no doubt that Mr. Bland will preserve this relic of antiquity, and there is no danger that it will meet the same fate as many old castles and mansions within this country.

"The hour has been when this mould'ring pile
Was dress'd in symmetry sublime;
Seen in stupendous strength to smile,
And seemed to dare the power of time;
But now time's native warning breath
Has blown its awful grace away;
Time, charged with ruin, loss, and death,
Spread o'er this mansion, pale decay,
Then, since man's noblest structure falls,
How short a space can mortals stand—
Compound of clay!—if granite walls
Of castles crumble into sand?"

Dinas Powis, &c.

DINAS Powis Castle stands on an elevated ground, encircled by hills whose sides are covered by trees, near the village of Dinas Powis stands the castle, in the parish of St. Andrews. The present state of the castle reminds us of the beautiful lines written by the late Rev. Evan Evans (Ieuan Brydydd Hir), an eminent antiquarian, bard, and classical scholar, to the ruins of Maesaleg (Bassaleg), the stately mansion of Ifor Hael:—

“Attend, ye great, and hear the solemn sound,
How short your greatness this proclaims around;
Strange that such pride should fill the human breast;
Your ruinous walls, the vanity attest!

The ruins enclose an oblong square seventy yards by thirty-five yards. The walls are kept in an excellent state. The castle belongs to the Rev. Henry T. Lee, Rector of Roundham, Norfolk, who is the lord of the manor. His father, who has travelled to “that bourne from whence no traveller returns,” took great interest in the preservation of the castle. The late Mr. Lee was a gentleman of excellent taste. “We shall not look upon his like again,” in that respect.

The area inside of the castle has been converted into a garden, and tradition says that a subterranean passage was to be seen here some years ago, but there are no traces of it at present. This castle was built by Jestyn ap Gwrgan, the last of the Glamorgan princes, about A.D. 1043, for his wife Denis, daughter of Bleddyn ab Cynfyn, Prince of Powis. Some historians seem to doubt this etymology. It is probable, however, that it means the “City *Dinas* of Powis.” *Dinas*, in the vernacular tongue, signifies a fortified place; and there are several in South Wales. On the south side of Aberystwith there is an old camp called “Dinas;” and there is a farm house in the parish of Llanddewibrefi, which has been erected near an old camp called by the same name. Lewis says that it was used as an asylum for the inhabitants to bring their cattle to at the time of the feudal wars.

After the overthrow of Jestyn, the country fell into the hands of Fitz-Hamon, who divided it between his followers, taking care to keep the best castles himself.

Fitz-Hamon died from the effects of a wound received in the siege of Falaize, in Normandy, and was buried at Tewkesbury. His daughter Mabel, or Mabli, married Robert, Earl of Gloucester, who became Lord of Glamorgan. He ruled the Welsh with an iron arm; but at last the spirit of the Cymry was aroused, and under their leadeader, Ifor Bach, they stormed Cardiff Castle, and Robert and his lady were taken prisoners.

From an old manuscript, a copy of which has been kindly furnished to Mrs. Rickards, the estimable lady of the Rev. H. H. Rickards, I have been permitted to make the following extract:—

“The Mount, Dinas Powis, July, 1768.—I recollect William Hurst, Esq., and had a discourse with him, among other things, on Dinas Powis. He said that Fitz-Hamon had it in his possession, and his heirs after him. But in Edward the Second's time it was in the possession of William de Somery, and continued in his male line a while, after which it fell between two female heirs; one married Lord Dudley, the other, Lord Berkeley, and the mansion of Dinas Powis was divided between them. Part of Lord Berkeley's share came to the crown, and the other part continued in his line to a daughter, who married Sir Matthew Caradoc of Swansea. This Matthew Caradoc imprisoned Twm Ifan Pryse *, at Cenfyg Castle, and the Dudley's share of the lordship of Dinas Powis went to the lordship of Swansea. Sir Matthew Caradoc left only one daughter, who married William Herbert, the Earl of Pembroke, Lord of Cardiff. He bought the other share of the lordship of Dinas Powis, of Queen Elizabeth, and the entire of Dinas Powis, Swansea, and Pembroke came to the same. William Herbert died heirless, and the whole, with title of Earl, came to Sir John Herbert, his brother. The said John Herbert also died heirless. He divided the whole between the Herberts of Cogan Pill, his nearest relatives by a younger branch of the family, consisting of a brother and two sisters, in three shares—namely, Dinas Powis, Swansea, and Cardiff. One of the sisters continued with her brother until her death, when she left her share to him. He then had two shares out of the

* Twm Ifan Pryse was a monk at Margam; he was turned out because he was Lollard. He is spoken of as prophet in the county until this day.

three. The other sister married Lord Brooke, of Warwick Castle, and for that reason, the third share of the lordship of Dinas Powis remained in the possession of the Brookes till a few years past. Sir Edmund Thomas, of Wenvoe Castle, deceased, and the above William Hurst bought the Brookes's share between them."

The present proprietors are the Rev. H. T. Lee, and R. F. L. Jenner, Esq.

Neath Abbey.

"I do love these ancient ruins;
We never tread upon them, but we set
On some rev'red history;
And questionless here in this open court,
Which now lies naked to the injuries
Of stormy weather, some lie interr'd who
Loved the Church so well and gave so largely to it,
They thought it should have canopied their bones
Till doomsday; but all things have their end
Churches and cities, which have diseases like men,
Must have like like that we have."

Neath Abbey, like many of those ancient buildings which adorned this country, has fallen into ruins, and the bat and the owl have made its courts their habitation. We could not help asking ourselves, whilst visiting these beautiful ruins, in the words of the bard—

"How many hearts have here grown cold,
How many beads have here been told,
How many matins have here been sung
On these rude stones, by time long broke!
I think I see some pilgrims kneel,
I think I see the censer smoke,
I think I hear the solemn psalm;
But here no more soft music floats,
No holy anthem chaunted now!
All hushed except the owl's shrill notes,
Low murm'ring from yon broken bough."

The monks, with all their errors and failings, were an example to us in these days of "great privileges," as they are termed. They kept the Divine command—"Freely ye have received, freely give." We are too fond of condemning them for their errors, and at the same time neglecting the Divine command which exhorteth us to love each other, and to stretch forth the hand of charity to the poor and afflicted. Those abbeyes were the hospitals for the sick and poor; the weary traveller was entertained on his journey. In the upper part of Cardiganshire there were several "hospitals" erected for this purpose. They prepared for the soul as well as for the body, a small church being attached to every "hospital." Amongst others still remaining are Yspytty Cynfyn, Yspytty Ystwyth, Yspytty Ystradmeurig, &c. &c.—[*See Strata Florida.*]

Neath Abbey was situated a short distance from the town of Neath, the ancient Nidium of the "Itineraries," and it was an important station on the great Roman road "Julia Martima." When Fitz Hamon conquered Glamorgan, he gave the lordship of Neath to his younger brother Richard de Grenville, who built the Castle of Neath, which is now in ruins.

In the year 1111 De Grenville went on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, and he brought back with him an eminent architect, of the name of Lalys, whom he employed to build an abbey at Neath. He afterwards erected several other houses and castles in Wales. He resided at Laleston, which is called after his name; but he left Glamorgan, and went to London, where he became an architect to Henry Beauclerk, Henry I.

De Grenville endowed this house with a large portion of his estate, which had unjustly been taken from the rightful owners. It appears that he also returned the remainder to the native proprietors.

"Conscience! what art thou, tremendous power,
Who dost inhabit us without our leave,
And art, within ourselves, another self,
A master self that lov'st to domineer,
And treat'st the monarch frankly as the slave?
How dost thou light a torch of distant deeds,
Make the past present, and the future frown?"

From the *original* Charter it appears that De Grenville and Constance his wife, for the safety of the souls of Gloucester, and Maud his wife, and William his son, gave their chapel in the Castle of Neath and its endowments, together with a tract of territory to the convent of Savigny, near Lyons, under a stipulation that they should establish a monastery of Grey Friars at Neath. It is not known at what time the monks changed to the Cisterican order. The endowments were very considerable, and they were afterwards increased by Roger Earl of Warwick, in the reign of Stephen. He gave the abbey land and fisheries in Gower, besides that which it held in Somersetshire.

The first abbot of Neath was Richard, who died 1145, vide the "Annales de Margam." Brown Willis says, that the last abbot was John Lleision. I believe that there are some of the Lleision family still residing at Neath.

The abbey of Neath was destroyed by Morgan ab Owen, who burnt it, destroying also four hundred sheep, killing four of the servants and a monk, and severely wounding another. The unfortunate monarch, Edward the Second, and his favourite, D'Espenser, escaped from Bristol, and took refuge in this abbey. He was subsequently taken prisoner in the parish of Llantrissant, in this county, and at last imprisoned at Berkeley Castle and murdered.

" Mark the year, mark the night,
When Severn shall re-echo with affright,
The shrieks of death through Berkeley's roof shall ring,
The shrieks of the agonising King." GRAY.

At the dissolution, there were eight monks in this abbey; and the revenues were valued according to Speed, £150 4s. 9d. The estate was granted to Sir Richard Williams, *alias* Cromwell, by Henry VIII.

It appears that the church was paved with glazed earthen tiles, which have been dug up from time to time. The present ruins give a very inadequate idea of its magnificence. The dusky smoke of the neighbouring works has destroyed its picturesque appearance and its beauty.

A prize was given at one of the National Eisteddfodau, for the best history of this abbey; but whether it will ever be published is doubtful.

Richard Grenville was lord of the castle and manor of Bydyford (now called Bideford.) After building Neath Abbey, he returned to Bideford, whereas the issue male of his body doth yet remain, and enjoyeth the same.—*Caradoc of Lancarfan's Chronicle.*

Historical Events.

In the year 1145, Pope Nicholas Brekspere, confirmed the rights of the Normans in Glamorgan. Nicholas was at one time a wanderer, and found refuge at St. Donatt's, with Sir Gilbert Stradling. In 1216, Lewis, the son of Phillip, was made King of England, and King John, of England, wandered in Wales, to his wife and sister-in-law. He had been divorced from his wife, Isabella, daughter of the Earl of Gloucester and Lord of Glamorgan; but, when she saw him in distress, they kept in disguise for six months at Boverton Palace, under the assumed name of Gerald Fitzalan.

In 1346, the Welsh acquired great fame in the battle of Cressy, in supporting the Black Prince. They were fighting in a field of leeks. Captain Cadwgan Voel, desired the Welsh to put leeks in their helmets; and, when they looked about, they were all Welshmen except 130; from that circumstance, the Welsh commenced wearing leeks.

In 1348, the sweating plague seized the Normans and Saxons in Wales, many of whom died, but scarcely one Welshman.

In 1349, the cattle in Devon and Somerset were seized with severe diseases, and great number of them died.

In 1378, Owen, the son of Elider, came to Wales from France, where he espoused the cause of the French King. He built a fine house at Lantwit; his conscience pained him so much for betraying his country, that he determined to abstain from food, and died from want; and, as they bore his body to the grave, two hounds passing by seized it and tore it to pieces. He wrote an account of his deeds in the vernacular tongue. He was very rich in gold and silver. On his death, the lord paramount took possession of it.

In 1392, a young man and woman went to the Chapter house, at Llandaff, and conducted themselves disgracefully during vespers;

but they both died there, and their bodies were thrown to the dogs.

In 1399, a Welshman, of the name of Llewellyn ab Cadwgan, came from the Turkish war to reside at Cardiff, and he would never mention his connexions. He was very rich; he gave freely to all who were in want. He built a house near the White Tower, for the support of sick and infirm persons. He spent *all* his wealth, and was obliged to sell his fine mansion to the Mathew family, and gave away the proceeds, after which he died of want, no one could succour him. A poor return certainly for his charity.

In 1401, insects destroyed the leaves and grass in Glamorgan to such an extent, that the fodder for cattle was spoiled. The Inhabitants of Glamorganshire, were obliged to lime the ground to kill them. After this, liming of land was continued, and houses white-washed; hence derives the old saying of "*Morganwg ai munau gwynion*," "*Glamorgan and its white walls*."

In 1407, an immense fish was cast ashore between St. Donatts and Lantwit. The fish was twenty yards long, and between three and four yards thick. The stench arising from its putrid carcass caused severe diseases. It was burnt by the inhabitants. The fire spread the putrid air so much more that maladies causing great mortality among man and beast, but cattle suffered mostly. Sir Edward Stradling gave a number of cows to the poor.

In 1411, a large ship came ashore at Trisilian Wood, but no one could understand the language of the crew. The lord of the manor took the ship, and one of the sailors taught the Welsh to knit stockings.

In 1419, three days of great heat, from the effect of which, numbers of men, beasts, and birds died. All the green vermin throughout the island were destroyed, which was a blessing, and they never made their appearance since. A plantation of wood withered at Margam park, and many trees and hedges in different places in Glamorgan.

Aberafon.

ABERAFON is situated on the banks of the river Afon, from which the town derives its name. When the county was subju-

gated by the Norman, Fitz Hamon, he conferred Aberafon upon Caradoc, the son of Iestyn ab Gwrgan, the last Prince of Glamorgan. Caradoc made this town his place of residence. It is supposed that he built the castle which is now in ruins, the very foundation of which has disappeared.

This castle proved very advantageous in the times of the feudal wars, it commanded the pass of the river. On Caradoc's death the lordship came into the possession of his son Morgan, who it is supposed built and founded the ancient Abbey of Margam. In the year 1150 the Prince of Powys came with a powerful army and invaded Morgan's territory, who was obliged to seek an asylum in the sanctuary of the neighbouring churches, being an unable to withstand his enemy. The castle was demolished. In the year 1349, Thomas, son of Sir John De Afan, was the Lord of Aberafon; he granted a charter to the Abbey of Margam, confirming all former grants to the inhabitants of the borough. When Cromwell's army was approaching the town, the Portreeve took the charters and hid them in an old oak in which a cavity was formed. When the Protector's officers came there they found him chopping sticks on it. By this artifice the papers were preserved. July 25th, 1768, an alarming flood occurred in the river Afon, the church and all the houses in the town were filled with water to a considerable height; the bridge was swept off, and the corn carried away; the town was covered with slime and mud. The inhabitants must have perished from want and hunger, only for the humanity of Thomas Mansel, Esq. There is a large and commodious market house here, but no market, which is a great disadvantage to the inhabitants. It is to be hoped that a new charter will be speedily granted, and that the town will again regain its prosperity.* There is an elegant National Schoolroom here for boys and girls newly erected. A few years ago a new church also was opened here, the building is one of the finest in the county, and I am glad to state that it is well attended.

THE PEDIGREE OF THE WILKINS, OF BRECON AND LANTWIT
MAJOR.

1. Robert de Wintona, or Wincestria, who came into Glamorgan

* Since the above was written a New Charter has been granted.

with Robert Fitzhamon : He was Lord of the Manor of Llanguan, near Cowbridge, and built a castle there, the ruins of which are still extant : the Valley underneath is called Pant Wilkin to this day. From whom lineally descended—

2. Nicholas de Wintona.
3. Michael de Wintona.
4. Wilklyne de Wintona.
5. William de Wincestra, flourishing in the reign of Edward I. and Edward II., contemporary with Hamon Turberville.
6. William de Wincestra, cotemporary with the son of Gilbert Turberville. Temp. Edw. II.
7. John de Wincestria, or de Wincestre, Lord of Landough.
8. Robert Winchester, Lord of Landough, who lived in the time of Edward III.
9. John Witcoline, or Wilkyn, living in 1335, who married Gwenllian, daughter of Griffith Gethin. Temp. Edward III.
10. John Wilcolyne, or Wilkin, vixit tempore, Edward III. and IV. and Richard II., married Isabel, daughter of John Raleigh, dying in the reign of Richard II.
11. John Wilkin, who married Agnes or Anne, daughter of Howell Carne, of Nash.
12. Richard Wilkin, married Jennett, daughter of Thomas Madoc, of Llanfair, living 18th year Henry VII., 1505.
13. Thomas Wilkin, married Gwenllian, daughter of Jenkin ap Richard ap Howell, of Llansannor, alias Gwyn of Llansannor, by his wife, daughter of Robert Matthew, of Castle Mynydd, and had a son, his successor, 1558.
14. Rev. Thomas Wilkyn, Rector of Porthkerry and St. Mary Church, Glamorganshire. He married first, Elizabeth, daughter of Lewis Harry, of Lancadle ; and second, Margaret, daughter of Morgan ap James Matthew, of Roose, and was succeeded at his death, in 1623, by his son Roger.
15. Rev. Roger Wilkins, A.M., Parson of St. Mary Church, who married Blanch, daughter and Heiress of Christopher Gaynon, Esq., of St. Brides, in the county of Monmouth, and was succeeded 26th December, 1864, by his son Thomas Wilkins.

16. The Rev. Thomas Wilkins, LL.B., Rector of Llanmaes and St. Mary Church, and Prebendary of Llandaff. He married Jane, daughter of Thomas Carne, Esq., of Nash, by Jane his wife, daughter of Sir Edward Stradling, of St. Donatts Castle, Bart., and had issue, Thomas Wilkins, his heir, Prothonotary of the Brecon Circuit, from whom the Wilkins of Maeslough, and Ann Wilkins, of Clifton, &c. are descended.—[*See Burke's Commoners of Great Britain*]. He died 1698. The Rev. Thomas Wilkins had a second son, Roger, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Lewis, Esq., of Lanishen, and had a daughter Jane; and his third son, John Wilkins, married Jennet, daughter of Walter Morgan, and had two sons, John and Edward, and a daughter Mary; and Mr. Theophilus Jones, in his History of Breconshire, asserts that from the John Wilkins and Janet Morgan, the Wilkins of Llantwit Major, are descended.

17. John Wilkins, third son of the Rev. Thomas Wilkins, above mentioned, who married Janet Morgan, when he died is not mentioned in the pedigree. John Wilkins was related to the Nash family, his mother being Jane, daughter of Thomas Carne, Esquire.

18. William Wilkins, of Monknash, whose son he was, when he died is unknown. Catherine Pierce, wife of Wilkins, of Monknash, died September 6th, 1685. Stone in the old Church.

19. Edward Wilkins, of Frampton, gentleman, father of Christopher Wilkins, of ditto. He had four sons—

1. William Wilkins, eldest son of Edward Wilkins, of Frampton, born in 1689, died May 8th, 1720, aged 40, without issue. See stone in the old Church.

2. Philip, second son of Edward Wilkins, of Frampton, born in 1691, died 12th May, 1729, and left no issue.

3. Edward Wilkins, gentleman, third son of Edward Wilkins, of Frampton, born in 1692. Twice married. He had by his second wife three sons and a daughter. He was owner of the Lower House and other estates, and died September 23rd, 1763, aged 70. He had—

Edward Wilkins, gentleman, born 1755. He married three wives, and had two brothers, John, who died in America, and

William, his youngest brother, died at Cowbridge, on the 10th of January, 1837, aged 78. The above Edward Wilkins died 16th of June, 1799, aged 44 years.

Elizabeth, daughter of the above Edward Wilkins, by Elizabeth Rosser, his first wife, married to Edward Bradley, Cowbridge, gentleman, and had issue.

Edward Bradley, jun., gentleman, and his four sisters, Mary and Elizabeth (twins), Cecilia, Ellen.

4. Christopher Wilkins, of Frampton, gentleman, fourth son of the above Edward Wilkins, of ditto, born 1702, died March 1739, aged 37 years. He had two sons—

William Wilkins, of Frampton, gentleman. He married Jane Thomas, and is said to have died about 1759, when his youngest son was about two years old. He left two sons, William and Christopher, who never married. Mr. Christopher Wilkins, of Frampton, the younger brother, died December 6th, 1837, aged 78 years.

Edward Wilkins, of the West-street, gentleman, born in 1727, and died 19th of March, 1781, aged 54 years. He married Anne, daughter of Mr. William Wathen, agent, and she died 13th of January, 1788, aged 70. See the monument. Edward Wilkins had—

Christopher Wilkins, of the West-street, Lantwit Major, gentleman, married Miss Jennet Simmons, and died November 10th, 1809, aged 55. She died 28th September, 1807, aged 40.

Christopher Wilkins had two sons, Christopher Wilkins, and his brother, Evan Wilkins, Esq., and a daughter, married to Mr. William Wrentmore. The youngest son, Mr. Evan Wilkins, married Miss Emma Anne Nicholl, of Dimlands, by whom he had issue as below—

Emma Janetta Wilkins, eldest daughter, married Capt. Hubert Churchill Gould, Ash Hall.

Ellen Wilkins, second daughter, married Frederick Charles Vachell, Esq., High Mead, near Cardiff.

St. Fagans.

ST. FAGANS stands on a gently elevated slope above the River Ely, about four miles from Cardiff, W.N.W., in the Hundred of Dinas Powis. The parish Church, which is an elegant structure, and which was rebuilt a few years ago, is dedicated to St. Fagan, who came to Britain with Dyfan, the founder of Merthyr Dyfan, in this County, and Llandyfan in Llandeilo-fawr; and Medwy and Elfan, so early as the year A.D. 180. They came to this country at the solicitations of Lleurwg, to preach the gospel to the inhabitants. It was an old saying:—

“Dids't thou hear the saying of Fagan,
When he had produced his argument:
When God is silent, it is not wise to speak.”

The old Church of St. Fagans may be regarded as one of the earliest Christian establishments in Britain. In the time of Cromwell, the vicar of St. Fagans, the Rev. Lewis Williams, a very charitable man, and of great age, was turned out of his house and dispossessed of all his subsistence by one Galler, who is described by the author of the “*Siluriana*” as one of the most savage ravagers of the clergy in Glamorgan. Mr. Williams retired to a small farm at Lisvane. One Ellis took possession of the living, who preached down tithes as anti-Christ, receiving at the same time, £100 per annum from the tithe treasury. At this time an order come from the Government that small livings, worth not more than a hundred pounds, should pay their ministers in tithes to meet these new arrangements; Ellis employed one Symonds to preach for him from the following text: “Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse.” The parishioners became disgusted with them, and they were put down as a pair of knaves. Mr. Williams lived to be restored to his living, and “the parishioners went out to meet him in a body.”

St. Fagans is celebrated in history of this County on account of a sanguinary battle which took place between the recreant leaders of the Parliamentary forces in Wales and Cromwell's army. After the termination of the first civil war, an order had been issued to disband the Parliamentary army in Wales, but some of the commanders, among others Colonel Poyer, Colonel Powell,

Major-General Stradling, of St. Donatts, and Laugharne, continued to retain a large force under arms, who were joined by the Royalists. Colonel Horton was despatched by the Protector to disband them, and to intimidate the leader. Cromwell was on his way to Glamorgan at the time. The Welsh commanders feeling confident of success, marched to meet Horton near St. Fagans, on a beautiful morning, the 8th of May, 1648. At the first charge Cromwell's army were compelled to retreat, but they soon rallied and returned to the contest, and drove their assailants from the ground they occupied. The battle raged furiously for two hours; both armies bravely maintained their positions; but the Welsh army could not compete with Cromwell's army, who were veterans, and the majority of the others were raw levies. Horton became master of the field, and completely routed the Parliamentary army. It is said that the slaughter was so great that this battle gave to the parish of St. Fagans alone sixty-five widows, and upwards of seven hundred to the county of Glamorgan. The late Iolo Morganwg, an excellent authority, says that he conversed with some old people, who remembered the battle, and that the River Ely was reddened with human blood from St. Fagans to the sea.

Men were so scarce the following harvest that the corn was reaped and the hay mowed by women.

The following gentlemen were taken prisoners by Colonel Horton:—

Major-General Stradling, Quarter-Master General Laughorn, twelve gentlemen who were to have had commissions, attended at the head-quarters, Colonel Harries, Colonel Phillip Gamage, of Newcastle, Colonel Richard Grime, Colonel Howell Gamis, several other colonels who had not received their commission, Lieutenant-Colonel Wogan, of Pembroke, Lieutenant-Colonel Lewis, Rhydlavar, Lieutenant-Colonel Hodskin, Forest, Major Phillipps, Major Dawkins, Major Stedman, Major Christopher Matthews, of St. Anall, Capt. Mathew, Capt. Will. Batton, Capt. Richard Caradock, eighty colonels, lieutenant-colonels, majors, captains, lieutenants, and seventy inferior officers, Doctor Lloyd, and several other malignant men; Mr. Marmaduke Lloyd, Sir Marmaduke Lloyd's son, of Maesyfelin, Lampeter, Mr. Hugh

Lloyd, Mr. J. Walcott, Sir W. Lloyd, Mr. George Anderson, Mr. Roger Gamis, Mr. Walter Powell, Mr. Gamis, Mr. Roger Williams, Mr. Devereux Grafton, two hundred and fifty gentlemen and reformado officers, two thousand six hundred common soldiers, four thousand club-men dispersed to their several habitations, three hundred and fifty arms, broken and whole, fifty colours and standards, three hundred and sixty horses, all their ammunition and baggage.

Among the slain—Lieutenant Col. Thomas Laughorn, Colonel Howell, Major Bussey, Major Evan Thomas, Major Smith, Capt. Turberville, “a Papist,” Capt. Powel, of Lantrade, forty more officers, one hundred and fifty common soldiers.

General Laughorn wounded and fled, Colonel Powell fled with one hundred horses, Colonel Poyer kept Pembroke Castle, with one hundred men.

The Parliament appointed a day of thanksgiving for this victory.

THE following official report of the battle of St. Fagans, sent from the field of battle by Generals Thomas Horton and John Oakey, has a local as well as a historic interest—

“To the Right Hon. the Earl of Manchester, speaker of the House of Peers *pro tempore*.

“My Lord,—God hath this day rewarded our wearisome marches with a full and glorious victory over an enemy who hath used much ability, subtilty and diligence to engage the kingdom in a new war; they had increased by a great number by the addition of divers disbanded men from England, and a generall conjunction of most able bodied inhabitants of the counties of Pembroke, Caermarthen, Cardigan, and many of Glamorgan. This day about nine of the clock, it pleased God that wee engaged with them at a place called St. Fagans, three miles distant from Cardiffe, and for near two hours had a very hot dispute, at length by God’s mercy, they were put to a total route, many slaine upon the place, and about three thousand prisoners, great store of arms and ammunitions, and many colours. The enemy accounted themselves eight thousand horse and foot, which makes the mercy more remarkable. My Lord, the Almighty was pleased greatly

to strengthen both our officers and soldiers, in discharge of their duties, with much resolution and cheerfulness, but with one heart they desire that the honour of this work may be wholly given to God. This account I held myself bound to present your Lordship with, to be communicated to the Right Honourable the House of Peers."

"My Lord,

"Your most humble and faithful servant,

"THOMAS HORTON,

"In the Field, near St. Fagans,

8 May, 1648. .

"SIR,—Hitherto, until this day, I could not give you a good account of our Welsh expeditions, we have had so many obstructions, through unseasonable weather, rugged ways, want of necessaries and other inconveniences, that we may say these things—'Except the Lord was with us, they had swallowed us up quick.' But besides this, we had attending on us a numerous armie before us, and behind us a great partie; wee divers ways sought an opportunity to fight with them, which until this instant we could never do, they before taking always the advantage of their Welsh ways and hills and rivers. This posture they continued until divers of our soulders were wearied out, and both foote and horse so far spent, as the enemie himself knew his great advantage over us; and out of that consideration, having mightily increased ours his armie and wee, though all these inconveniences somewhat decreased ours, hee on the eighth of this instant, about 8 of the clocke in the forenoone, proffered us the battle. Wee seeing his number, and hee being upon us before wee were well aware of him, quitted our present station, which was at St. Fagans, the enemy drew into the place of our guards; but wee being very loth to retreat upon a little hill near St. Fagans, made good our ground, drew up our armie, faced the enemie, a fore lorne hope of horse and draggoons was drawn up under the command of Lieut. Godfrey; and another forlorne hope of foote, under the command of a Lieut. of foote. Next they marched 160 firelocks under the command of Captaine Garland. In right wing marched Colonel Okey, with three troops of horse, and three

troops of dragoons. In the maine body marched Colonel Horton, Commander-in Chiefe. In the left flank marched the horse under the command of Major Barton with some dragoones. The body being thus drawn up, the forlorne hope of horse advanced, and fell immediately into a ground where 500 of the enemies of foote and some horses lined the hedges. Lieut. Godfrey, with a forlorne hope of horse, immediately charged them, routed them, and killed some of them. Colonel Okey upon this, taking the advantage of the enemies running, commanded presently Captaine Garland with firelocks, Captaine Mercer with a commanded party of dragoones, and some horse to second the forlorn hope. These falling into another ground where the enemy was lining the hedges, drove them from hedge to hedge, and pursued them."

"The enemy in this retreat having so many reserve of foot at every hedge, hee makes a stay and a new party. Still Colonel Okey commanded the party both of firelocks and dragoones and horse to advance the enemy, having a numerous armie of foote, still ever and anon sends fresh reserves; but at the end hee was beate by this partie of foote and horse to a water, and from thence over a river, where again he made good his ground. There the dispute lasted a long while, till our body of foote and horse advanced; where the horse, with the foote making way, and charging with the foote on the musketeers. Through the goodness of God, after an hour's dispute, they were put to the rout. Wee pursued, took divers prisoners—the number as yet unknown, and the quality; wee heare some of the men of quality both killed and taken; this for the present in brief. We can give you an account that there were farre more prisoners taken than the number of our armie was; so that we can all say "*God hath* done great things for us." Captaine Nicholetts and Cornet Okey were both shot through their hats, but free from any other part. No more for present. I take my leave, and remain your servant to command,"

"JOHN OKEY."

"From the field at St. Fagans, this
8th of May, 1648."

THESE commanders, although they pretended to be very religious in their despatches, were very highly elated with the

carnage and slaughter that took place in the field of battle, which was at variance with their profession. Such language, as that made use of by Colonel Okey under such circumstances, was bordering on blasphemy. We had lately another specimen of the canting language made use of by people who call themselves Christians. Of all cants the cant of hypocrisy is the worst. It is enough to make us shudder, when we think of so many human beings sent to appear before their maker during those unhappy times, and all under the cloak of religion! War is honourable when people defend their native rights, their swords are barriers between the lawless spoiler and the weak; but it is highly dishonourable, when men draw the offensive blade to obtain power and gain.

“ He! who once has mingled in
The carnage, who has lain
The live long night in aching thirst!
Alive among the slain—
Will shudder at the name of war;
And curse the hand which draws
His sword for empty glory, or
To serve a selfish cause.”

Monumental Inscription on an ancient Tablet over the Pew of the Duffryn Family in Cadoxton Church, near Neath.

“ Hic in Caucellis Saueti Cadoci, et prope ipsum imaginem Sanc: Cadoci, prout ille testamento ultimo decreverat, et anno Xti 1507, jacet corpus Leolini filii Johannis, fil: Leolini fil; Gwillim, als. William, fil: Jevani, fi: Morgani, fi: Morgani fi: Audoeni, fi: Rheci, fi: Istini, ultimi, principis et domini Glamorgani, Gwent et Morganwg, originis Trogani ceu sanguinis Britannici; qui fraude et dolo Normanorium, quos mercede et Slipendio retenuit ad bellum gerendum, contra Vicinous, occisus fuit posterique egus fortunis omnibus, scilicet castro de Cardiff principale egus palato cum omnibus de pendentibus et aliis paternis dominionibus terris et ditionibus ejiciebantur, regnante Gulielmio Rufo tunc temporis Angliae Rege.” After Fitzhamon conquered the whole of Glamorgan he gave the Lordship of Solven between Neath River, and Tawe, to Rhys ab Jestyn, who is mentioned in this epitaph.

Arms.—Gules, three Chevrons Argent. Those of Jestyn ab

Gwrgant borne by Williams of Duffryn. Motto—"Vincet qui patitur."

To the memory of Mrs. Rose Williams, widow of Phillip Williams of Duffryn, Esq., great grandson of Llewellyn, and daughter of Morgan Caradoc of Cheriton—

Roses the most gay, that Flora's wreath beset,
Oft while they bud, are nipp'd by frost, but yet
She proved a lasting rose full blown, yet she
Exceeded most longevity.

Wither for want of sap she did, when past
Joys of an earthly bliss, the fatal blast,
Lewell'd the rest, the rose yet stood
Long unblasted for her neighbour's good.
Instead of winter she enjoys by fate,
A lasting spring of eternal date;
Most strange, yet she at her Redeemer's day,
Should sap recover and appear more gay.

Vide "*Cambro Briton*."

Arms as before.

This monument contains the history of the Williams' family; they are traced through the several generations; it is engraved on several sheets of copper, and concludes with Phillip Williams, Esq., who died 6th of November, 1717. Mr. Evans, in his tour through Wales, has given it in full, but he has committed many errors in the orthography of Welsh names.

THE MARQUISES OF WORCESTER.

1. Bernard Newmarsh, Lord of Brecon; married Nest, daughter of Llewellyn ab Gruffudd, Prince of South Wales.
2. Milo, Earl of Hereford; married Sibill, daughter and heiress of Bernard Newmarsh.
3. Henry Fitz Herbert, Lord of the Forest of Dean; married Lucy, daughter and co-heiress of Milo Fitz Walter, Earl of Hereford.
4. Peter Fitz Herbert; married Alice, daughter and heiress of Bleddyn Broad Spear, Llanthleoll, in the County of Monmouth, a Welsh Prince.

5. Reinold Fitz Peter, Lord of Llanthlleol, *Jure Matris*; married Margaret, daughter of Sir John Welsh.

6. Adam ab Reinold, Lord Llanthlleol; married Christian, daughter of Gwarendy. The arms belonging to this family are the same as Ynyr, King of Gwent.

7. Jenkin ab Adam; married Gwenllian, daughter of Sir Aaron ab Bledri, Lord of Kilsant, in the County of Carmarthen.

8. Gwilym Jenkin, Esquire; married Gwenllian, daughter of Hywel Vychan ab Hywel ab Iorwerth.

9. Thomas ab Gwilym Jenkin; married Maud, daughter of Sir John Morley, Knight.

10. Sir William Thomas, Knight; married Gwladus, daughter of Sir David Gam, a valiant Welsh Knight.

11. William Herbert, the Earl of Pembroke; married Ann, daughter of Sir Walter Devereux.

12. William Herbert, the Earl of Huntingdon; married Mary, daughter of Sir Richard Woodville, Earl Rivers.

13. Charles Somerset; married Elizabeth, daughter of William Herbert, Earl of Huntingdon, and his sole heiress.

14. Henry Somerset, Earl of Worcester; married Eliza, daughter of Sir Anthony Brown.

15. William Somerset; married Christian, daughter to Edward, Lord North.

16. Edward, Earl of Worcester; married Eliza, daughter of Francis Hastings, Earl of Huntingdon.

17. Henry, Earl of Worcester; married Anne, sole daughter and heiress of John, Lord Russell.

18. Edward, Marquis of Worcester and Earl of Glamorgan; married Eliza, daughter to William Lord Dormer.

19. Henry, Lord Herbert; married Capel, widow of Lord Beauchamp, and Mother to the Duke of Somerset.

MARQUISES OF PEMBROKE.

Gilbert de Clare.

Richard de Clare, surnamed Strongbow.

William Marshall; married Isabel, daughter and heiress of Richard Strongbow.

William Marshall, Lord Chief Justice.

Richard Marshall.

Gilbert Marshall.

Walter Marshall.

Anslem Marshall.

William de Valence, half brother to Henry the Third, whose wife was Anslem Marshall's niece, Aymer de Valence.

John Hastings, 1st; John Hastings, 2nd.

Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester.

William de la Pole, Duke of Suffolk.

Jasper of Hatfield, Duke of Bedford.

William Herbert, 1st; William Herbert, 2nd.

Edward, Prince of Wales, son of Edward the Fourth.

Ann Boleyn, wife of Henry the Eighth, Marchioness.

William Herbert, was Lord High Steward in the reign of Edward the Sixth.

THE EARLS OF PEMBROKE DOWN TO THE REIGN OF CHARLES
THE FIRST.

Bernard Newmarsh, or Newmarch, Lord of Brecon; married Nest, daughter of Gruffudd ap Llewellyn, Prince of South Wales.

Milo, Earl of Hereford; married Sibil, daughter and heiress of Bernard Newmarsh.

Herbert, Lord of the Forest of Dean; married Lucy, one of the daughters and co-heiress of Milo, Earl of Hereford.

Peter ap Herbert, Esq.; married Alice, daughter and heiress of Bladdyn Broad Spear, Llanthlleol and Beachley.

Reginald ap Peter; married Margaret, daughter of Sir John Welsh, or Walsh, Knight.

Adam ap Reginald, Esq.; married Grisley, daughter and heiress of Gwarendy, Lord of Gwarendy.

Jenkin ap Adam, Esq., of Gwarendy; married Gwenllian, daughter of Aaron ap Bledri, Knight.

Gwinllin Jenkin, Esq., of Gwarendy; married Gwenllian, daughter of Howel ap Ioroth, or Yorath, Esquire, of Tylegeles.

Thomas Gwinllin Jenkin, Esq., of Gwarendy; married Maud, daughter and heiress of Sir John Borely, Knight.

Sir William Thomas, Knight; married Gwladys, daughter of Sir David Gam.

William Herbert, created Earl of Pembroke, temp. Henry the Fourth; married Ann, daughter of Sir Walter Devereux, Knight.

William Herbert, of Ewyas; married a daughter of Sir Mathew Caradock, of Swansea, Knight.

William Herbert; married Ann, daughter of Thomas Parr, Baron Kendal, and sister and co-heiress of William Parr, Marquiss of Northampton and Earl of Essex.

Henry Herbert, Earl of Pembroke; married Mary, daughter of Sir Henry Sydney, Knight, Lord Deputy of Ireland.

William Herbert, Earl of Pembroke, *sans issue*; married Mary, eldest daughter and co-heiress of Gibert Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury.

Phillip Herbert, Earl of Pembroke and Montgomery; married Susan, co-heiress of Edward Vere, Earl of Oxford. By this union this honourable family descends from the British line.

William Herbert, half brother to Phillip Herbert.

Thomas Herbert, Earl of Pembroke, A.D., 1698.

Pont-yr-Ŵsbrŷd Gwyn;

(OR THE BRIDGE OF THE WHITE SPIRIT.)

"Oh, Cambrian River; with slow music gliding,
By pastoral hills, old woods, and ruined towers;
Now 'midst thy reeds and golden willows hiding,
Now gleaming forth by some rich bank of flowers;
Long flowed the current of my life's clear hours,
Onward with thine, whose voice yet haunts my dream,
Though time and change, and other mightier powers,
Far from thy side have borne me. Thou smooth stream;
Art winding still thy sunny meads along,
Murmuring to cottage and grey hall thy song,
Low, sweet, unchanged. *My* being's tide path passed
Through rocks and storms; yet will I not complain,
If thus wrought free and pure from earthly stain,
Brightly its waves may reach their parent-deep at last."

"I was, when a child, a firm believer in ghosts. Mr. Pepper had not then made "spiritual apparitions" of common occurrence; and although I might have read my countryman, Glendower's boasting assertion that he could "call spirits from the vasty deep," I had yet to learn that they came when called by ordinary mortals at the Polytechnic. I dearly loved ghost stories. I used to bribe my old Welsh nurse to allow me, after I had been dismissed with a strict injunction to go to bed like a good child, to steal down from my nursery into the kitchen, where the servants were at that time of the evening generally to be found in the winter sitting round an enormous coal fire, trying to outshine each other in the narration of supernatural horrors. I need scarcely say that as I never told tales out of school—that is, repeated anything in the drawing-room, that I heard in any part of the house—I was not an unwelcome kitchen visitor. "Pont-yr-Ysbryd Gwyn" was my favourite story, and as I understood the Welsh language perfectly I could, at the age of eight, repeat it very correctly. I will now do my best to reproduce it.

In days gone by Sir Elidir Ddu, Knight of the Sepulchre in the reign of the first Richard, lived at Kidwelly Castle. He was the lineal descendant of Urien Reged, Lord of Kidwelly, and when my tale commences, was a widower, with two sons, Gryffith and Rhys, and a daughter named Nest.

Nest was very lovely, but her beauty was of the Saxon character. She resembled her mother, who had been termed, from the fairness of her complexion, Bronwen, or the white-necked. She partook also of her mother's nature. She was a fair and gentle girl, presenting a marked contrast to her haughty cousin, the dark-haired Gwladys.

Gwladys was an orphan, the daughter of Sir Elidir's brother, Philip ap Ddu, by the only child of David Vras, Lord of Blancygh, and she plumed herself greatly upon her descent from Cadivor Vawr, for Welsh maidens in those times were quite as proud of the blue blood in their veins as their representatives of the present day are. If Nest's large soft blue orbs and golden ringlets proclaimed her partly Saxon origin, Gwladys, with her clear rich dark complexion, flashing eyes, glossy black hair, and well cut features, was a true type of Cambrian beauty. Her cousin,

Gryffith, the Knight's eldest son, fully appreciated her charms. He had long been devoted to her; but she either was, or wished to appear to be, insensible to his love.

Gwladys went, at her father's death, to reside at Kidwelly Castle, in order to be under her uncle's protection, and finding that Nest had a favoured suitor in the person of Sir Walter Mansel, she determined to try and win his affections from her cousin. This she failed to effect, and as it so happened that Gryffith, who had taken a mortal hatred to Sir Walter, did all in his power to prejudice his father, Sir Elidir, against him, she aided in the schemes set afoot to detach him from his lady-love. Now, Sir Elidir's inclinations were favourable to the marriage. He was alive to the young Knight's worth; knew him to be brave and noble; and his descent from Philip Mansel, who came over with the Conqueror, was no great blemish in the eyes of one who had chosen for his own wife a maiden of the mixed race; not so with his son Gryffith, in whose breast there burned a Saxon detestation of the Norman invader.

Nest continued firm to her plighted troth. Her father had not absolutely commanded her to break faith with the young Knight, and her brother's and cousin's remonstrances she totally disregarded.

The Crusades once more excited the armies of Europe—the Holy Sepulchre was in danger; and, as William of Malmesbury has it, "The Welshman left his hunting, the Dane his drinking party, and the Norwegian his raw fish," in order to fight for the Cross.

Sir Elidir departed for Palestine, accompanied by his youngest son Rhys, and Griffith was Lord of the castle in his absence.

Sir Walter Mansel was master of Margam. Margam was situated in the adjoining county. Some of the family became in after years "Lords Mansel of Margam." But he was at this time staying at Trimsaran, a place in the vicinity of Kidwelly, and Nest and himself corresponded, and occasionally met by an old bridge, then called "Pont y Gwendraeth," situated midway between Trimsaran and the Castle.

Gwladys having discovered these stolen interviews, revealed the fact to Gryffith, who, burning with rage, vowed to be revenged

upon his sister's lover. A careful watch was accordingly kept, and one of poor Nest's letters intercepted by her heartless, treacherous cousin. Amongst Sir Elidir's retainers was a man named Merig Maney. Crafty, cruel, and devoid of good feeling, he had but few friends in the castle, where the circumstances of his being the Lady Gwladys's foster brother, gave him a sort of superior position to his fellow servitors of the same rank. If this man Merig had one kindly impulse in his nature, it was for his beautiful foster sister. Few persons can understand the intense degree of attachment often subsisting between foster children of very different social standing in Wales even at the present time, and the period I write of, the children of the Welsh woman who had nursed the Lord's son or daughter were brought up to consider it a part of their duty to die, if need be, for the foster child. Merig did Gwladys's bidding in all things, and when she sent for him and desired him to regard her cousin Gryffith as his master, and obey his commands unquestioning, he took a sacred oath to observe her orders. What Gryffith's commands were remains to be told.

"Out of the water he cries for help,
Where help can ne'er be given;
But the goodly deeds of his earthly life,
Shall find him grace in heaven."

It was a glorious evening in the month of September when Nest hurried from the castle to the accustomed place of tryst. As she neared the bridge from the Kidwelly side of the river she saw Sir Walter advancing to meet her, but just as he gained the middle of the bridge he fell, and a man, who had evidently been lurking in one of the recesses, sprang out upon him. Nest rushed forward, and reached the spot in time to see the assassin take her lover's dead body in his arms and fling it in the stream. She gave one wild shriek, and jumped in after it. The tide (the river was a tidal one) was on the point of turning, and the current carried her down the stream towards the sea. After a lapse of several days both bodies were found on the "Cefen Shydau" sands within a few yards of each other. Nest was buried in Kidwelly Church, and Sir Walter's remains were allowed in death to rest by her side. Gryffith ap Ddu and the Lady Gwladys

asserted that the lovers having determined to elope, took their way across the sands, and the night being dark, they were surrounded by the sea, and had perished in their flight; but the fisherman who found Sir Walter's body whispered that there was an ugly mark near the heart, such as the wound made by an arrow would have caused.

Years went by; the old Knight died broken hearted in the Holy Land on hearing of his daughter's death, and Sir Gryffith having been refused by his cousin Gwladys, departed to join the Crusaders, accompanied by Merig Maney. He despatched his brother home to guard the castle, and at his death, which happened in a couple of years, Rhys succeeded to the title and estates. He married Gwladys, and had by her two sons, Nicholas and Thomas; but their wedded life was not a happy one. The lady of the castle was subject to fits of deep despondency, and on one occasion it was rumoured that her reason entirely left her on hearing that a white figure resembling the Lady Nest had been seen to wander in the vicinity of "Pont y Gwendraeth." A heavy gloom overhung the castle. Sir Rhys's face wore a stern, unnatural aspect whenever his sister's name was mentioned, and the history of Sir Walter Mansel and the beautiful Lady Nest had become a story of the past, when Merig returned to Kidwelly to die. He requested to see his foster sister, the mistress of the castle, and in her ear and the attendant priest's he faintly breathed out the following tale:—

"He had," he said, "been haunted by Nest's spirit from the moment he murdered Sir Walter up to the day of his confession; sleeping or waking her wild shriek rang in his ears. He had followed Sir Gryffith to the wars in hope of getting rid of life, but he seemed to bear some charm which rendered him invulnerable. He always went into the thickest of the fight, but ever came out unharmed. The first time Nest appeared to him was when her father the old Sir Elidir, died, and then told him that her spirit was doomed to walk the earth as a punishment for her having dared to put an end to her own life, until a marriage should take place between one of her father's descendents and a member of the Mansel family. When this came to pass, she stated that her probation would be over, but that until it did occur she would

appear to give warning of the approaching death of every member of the family on 'Pont y Gwendraeth.' She further added that a descendant of Merig's should meet with an ignominious death through the instrumentality of one of hers about the time when her earthly visitations were to cease."

The death of Merig—the future life of Gwladys and her husband are veiled in mystery, I never heard any further account of them, but in the year 1775 the ghost story of "Pont-yr-Ysbryd Gwyn" was still in existence; and in order to make my readers rightly understand this narrative it is requisite that I should give a slight sketch of the respective families of Ddu and Mansel as they then stood.

Rhys, the son of Elidir ap Ddu, the husband of Gwladys and brother of Nest, left two sons, as we have already read, called Nicholas and Thomas. They founded the families of Rice of Newton, (ancestors of the present Lord Dynevor,) and Rhys of K———. The Rhys branch was the elder of the twain, and of this stock two sons, John and Arthur, were in 1775 the representatives. The fortunes of the family had retrograded—they were no longer Lords of Kidwelly. The castle was a ruin; it had passed into other hands, and Mr. John R———, the eldest son, was a simple country gentleman.

A lineal descendant of the Mansels of Margam still lived near Kidwelly, Sir William Mansel, of Iscoed, and his daughter Amy became the wife of Mr.———.

Mr. R——— had often heard the old tale of "Pont-yr-Yspryd Gwyn," but was far too enlightened to credit any ghost story of ancient or modern date, when one evening returning from the C——— Quarter Sessions (he was a county magistrate) over "Pont-yr-Yspryd Gwyn" to his home on the other side of the Gwendraeth, he was startled by a wild unearthly shriek, and looking up beheld a white figure flit rapidly across the bridge and disappear over the wall into the water beneath. Country gentlemen rode in those days, (the carriage was rarely ordered out unless the ladies of the household accompanied their lords), and Mr. R.——— felt his horse tremble under him. The animal stood still, and sometime elapsed before he could urge him to cross.

The ghost story flashed upon his mind, and putting spurs to his steed he rode off in the direction of K—— with right good will. Some two miles from home he observed a dense crowd, and on approaching learnt that an old woman named "Poll of Barclay" had been found murdered in her cottage. He instantly dismounted and proceeded to the hovel where he saw the body. The poor old creature had evidently been dead several days, and he observed what no one else seemed to have noticed, a small portion of the cuff of a man's coat sleeve lying on the bed by the side of the corpse. He took possession of it, and having sworn in two special constables proceeded to make inquiries as to whether any one present knew any one who had a coat of that particular colour (the shade was a peculiar one.) Some half-dozen voices at once shouted "Will Maney," and on going to his cottage Mr. R—— discovered that a piece of cuff found on the murdered woman's bed corresponded exactly with Maney's coat, and that a part of one cuff was torn off. Mr. R—— committed him to prison, and in order to give my tale as brief as possible, I will only say that the murderer Will Maney, a descendant of Merig Maney's, was hung in chains on Pembrey Mountain, the scene of his guilt, and that Mr. R—— found on his arrival at home two letters; the one informing him of the death of his brother Arthur of the Royal Navy, who was drowned at sea, and the other announcing the demise of his wife's mother, Lady Mansel, of Iscoed, who was burned to death at Kidwelly, her lace sleeve having caught fire when she was in the act of sealing a letter. Nest's prediction was thus accomplished in a remarkable manner, and the history of "Pont-yr-Yspryd Gwyn" was often related to me in childhood as an instance of a well authenticated ghost story."

P.S.—The above tale was written by a lady.

Legend of Myddfai.

A man who lived in a farm-house called Esgairllaethdy, in the parish of Myddfai, having bought some lambs in a neighbouring fair, led them to graze near "Llyn-y-Van-Fach," on the Black

Mountain. Whenever he visited the lambs, three most beautiful female figures presented themselves to him from the lake, and often made excursions on the boundaries of it. For some time he pursued and endeavoured to catch them, but always failed, for the enchanting nymphs ran before him, and when they had reached the lake they triumphantly exclaimed,—

“Crás dy fara
Anhawdd ein dala.”

which, with little circumlocution, means, “For thee who eatest baked bread, it is difficult to catch us.” One day some moist bread from the lake came to shore. The farmer devoured it with great avidity. On the following day he was successful in his pursuit, and caught the fair damsels. After a little conversation with them he commanded courage sufficient to make proposals of marriage to one of them. She consented to accept them on condition that he would distinguish her from her sisters on the following day. This was a new and great difficulty to the young farmer, for the fair nymphs were so similar in form and features that he could scarcely perceive any difference between them. He observed, however, a trifling singularity in the strapping of her sandals, by which he recognized her the following day. Some, indeed, who believed this legend, say that this lady of the lake hinted in private conversation with her swain that upon the day of trial she would place herself between her two sisters, and that she would turn her right foot a little to the right. By this means he distinguished her from her sisters. Whatever were the means, the end was secured; he selected her, and she immediately left the lake and accompanied him home. Before she quitted, she summoned to attend her from the lake, seven cows, two oxen, and a bull. This lady engaged to live with him until such time as he would strike her three times without a cause. For some years they lived together in comfort, and she bore him three sons, who were the celebrated “Meddygon Myddfai.” One day, when he was preparing for a fair in the neighbourhood, he desired her to go to the field to fetch his horse. She said she would, but being rather dilatory, he said to her humourously, “*Dos, dos, dos,*” i.e., “Go, go, go,” and he slightly touched her arm three times with his glove. As she now deemed the term of her marriage broken,

she immediately departed, and summoned with her the seven cows, two oxen, and the bull. The oxen were at the time ploughing in the field, but they immediately obeyed her call and took the plough with them, and the furrow from the field to the margin of the lake was to be seen in several parts of that country. After her departure, she once met her sons in a ravine, called "Cwm y Meddygon," and delivered to each of them a bag containing some articles, which are unknown, but are supposed to have been some discoveries in medicine. The "Meddygon Myddtai," where Rhiwallon, Cadwgan, Gruffudd, and Einon. They were the most skilful physicians of their time; they flourished about A.D. 1220. They were Rhys Grug, Lord of Dinefawr's physicians.—*Vide Cambro Briton.*

The Vale of Tywy.

THE following lines appeared in a book called "The Wanderer," which was published about forty years ago. They subsequently appeared in Mr. Parry's collection of "Welsh Melodies":—

AIR—"OVER THE WATER."

Sweet Vale of Tywy, how pleasant 'tis now
To gaze on thy beauties from Grongar's* high brow!
When thy soft lucid waters so peacefully run,
And the wild rose hath bared her white breast to the sun.
When thy groves are as calm as when Myrddin† here rovd,
And their shades are as still as the shade that he lov'd;
When my own native lark, in the morning's young ray
Trills a matin salute to the bright God of day,
And thy glens are exulting to echo the lay.

Oh! how much unlike that fell day to the brave,
When the blood of thy Tudor‡ so crimson'd the wave!
And the snakes§ of ingratitude hissing accurs'd,
Wreath'd round the red hand of the viper he nurs'd:
But the day is gone by and 'tis now like a dream
To suppose such a day ever honour'd thy stream:
Where thy own native lark in the morning's young ray
Trills a matin salute to the God of the day,
And thy glens are exulting to echo the lay.

There is not a spot so delicious on earth,
To the bosom of rest as the spot of its birth,
Where we've sung a gay couplet or breath'd a love tale
To the fair little nymphs of our dear native vale.
And now here doth nature so bountifully shine
On a vale of this world, my sweet Tywy, than thine,
When my own native lark in the morning's young ray
Trills a matin salute to the God of the Day,
And thy glens are exulting to echo the lay.

* Grongar Hill is situated in the parish of Llangathen, a short distance from Aberglasney, the seat of J. W. Phillips, Esq. It has been immortalized by the muse of Dyer. On the summit of this hill the poet wrote the "Grongar Hill." This poem have been translated into Welsh, by Mr. William Davies, *Teilo*, Medical Hall, Llandilo.

† Myrddin, or Ambrosius, a celebrated poet who flourished about the middle of the fifth century. There was another person of the same name, called Myrddin Wyllt.

‡ Sir Rhys Ab Tewdwr, Lord of Dynevor, who, according to some authorities, was beheaded on Hirwain Wrgan, in Glamorgan. About the year 1087 one Einon Ab Collwyn, who was defeated by Sir Rhys at Llandydoch, escaped to Glamorgan, to Jestyn Ab Gwrgant, Lord of Glamorgan, who was also at enmity with Sir Rhys. Jestyn entered into a negotiation with Einon to engage some of the Norman Knights in his service, to assist him in his war against Rhys. As a reward he promised him the Lordship of Miskin and his daughter for a wife. Under this stipulation he went to London, and prevailed on Fitz Hamon to come to Wales. The Normans and Jestyn's army marched to Hirwain, where they defeated Sir Rhys. When the treacherous Jestyn accomplished his object he refused to fulfil his promise to Einon, who became indignant, and hastened after the Normans, who had commenced their journey home. He brought them back and fell upon Jestyn, and defeated his army, and he was obliged to escape; and Glamorgan fell into the hands of his hirelings, who parted it between them.

§ The snake Einon Ab Collwyn mentioned above.—*Vide Ancient Cardiff.*

Llanegwad.

THE parish of Llanegwad is beautifully situated in Ystradtywy, a district noted in Welsh annals on account of the many sanguinary engagements which were fought here in the troublesome days of our forefathers, whose blood has been mixed with its fertile soil.

The parish Church is dedicated to St. Egwad, son of Cynddilig,

son of Cennydd, son of Aur y Coed Aur. St. Egwad lived here in seclusion near a spot called after his name "Eisteddfa Egwad."

Remote from man, with God he passed his days,
Prayer all his business and all his pleasure praise.

Near Eisteddfa Egwad there are some old ruins, supposed to be an extensive mansion; peradventure the time has been that it was dressed in sublime symmetry, and its strength seemed to dare the power of time; but time has blown its beauty and graces away, and it has crumbled into sand.

In the parish Church there are several monuments in memory of the different families. The living is a vicarage, in the Archdeaconry of Caermarthen and the Deanery of Llandilo. It is rated in the King's Book, according to the *Liber Valorum*, published A.D., 1796, by the Rev. John Lloyd, A.B., Jesus College, Oxon., at £8 13s. 4d., and the yearly tenths, 17s. 4d.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

In the Vestry.

Near this place lieth the body of William Jones, of Llwyn, in this parish, who was buried July 2nd, 1795, aged 75 years.

In the Chancel.

Underneath this Altar is interred the body of Thomas Evans, late of Glaptywy in this parish, Esquire, who died August 24th, 1743, aged 43 years. Also, of Hester Evans, relict of the said Thomas Evans, who died November 11th, 1749, aged 74 years.

In memory of James Evans, Clk., A.M., Vicar of Caermarthen, eldest son of the said Thomas and Hester Evans, who died March 10th, 1752, aged 37 years. And the body of John Evans, Esq., youngest son of the said Thomas and Hester Evans, who died September, 21st, 1757, aged 39 years. Herbert Evans, Esq., and heir of the said John Evans, caused this monument to be erected in grateful memory of his worthy ancestors, Anno, 1766.

Inside the Church.

Near this place, in the family vault, lie the bodies of Lewis Jones, Clk., M.A., of Miros Hill, in this parish. Obit. 22nd June, 1803; Æt. 56.

Mary Ann, daughter of Leoline Jones. Esq., son of the above Lewis Jones and Ann his wife, also of Miros Hill. Obit. 11th of September, 1819; *Æt.* 2 years 4 months. Lewis Jones, son of the above. Obit. 10th of July, 1820; *Æt.* 26 years. Also the said Leoline Jones. Obit. 3rd of June, 1822; *Æt.* 32 years. This tablet was placed here by Mr. Leoline Jones's widow, as a memorial of her affection.

Near this place lieth the body of Margaret, the wife of the Rev. David Davies, curate of this parish, daughter of the late Rev. Thomas Price, vicar of Mydrim, who departed this life on the 10th day of June, 1729, aged 46 years.

Sacred to the memory of the Rev. David Richards, minister of this parish, who died May 1st, 1782, in the 58th year of his age. Also, of Elizabeth, his wife, who died February 2nd, 1801, in the 71st year of her age. She was the daughter of Thomas Harries, vicar of Llanedarn (Monmouthshire,) and niece to Dr. John Harries, Bishop of Llandaff. Their remains are interred under the yew tree, on the North side of the churchyard. "The eye of him, &c.," Job, vii., 8.

Near this place are interred the remains of Mary Jones, wife of Thomas Jones, Nantymabe, of this parish, Esquire, who died the 25th day of August, 1783, aged 64 years. Also the remains of the above Thomas Jones, who died the 12th of July, 1785, aged 49 years. This monument was erected by Mrs. Elizabeth Jones, Nantymabe, to perpetuate the memory of her deceased friends.

In the churchyard there are some curious Welsh epitaphs. The present Vicar is the Rev. E. Evans, a most exemplary clergyman. There were several chapels under the mother Church at one time in this parish. The late Rev. John Francis, of Bath, left a sum of money to the poor of this parish; and several others, which are distributed annually, according to the will of the testators.

In the year 1740, one of the Rev. Griffith Jones's the "good Vicar" of Llandowror, Circulating Schools was opened at Felingwm, in this parish, where men, women, and children, were taught to read God's word in the Welsh language, and catechised and instructed in the principles and duties of religion. There were 74 pupils at this school. From 1741 to 1742 it was held in the village of Llanegwad; number of scholars, 59. From 1744 to

45, at Tynyffordd, in the same parish; scholars, 30. From 1746 to 1747, it was carried on at Penyrheol; scholars, 73. From 1749 to 1750, it was carried on at the same place; scholars, 46. From 1757 to 1758, at Cothi Bridge; scholars, 50.

A COPY OF A LETTER SENT BY THE CURATE OF LLANEGWAD,
TO THE FOUNDER.

“Llanegwad, in Carmarthenshire,
July 17, 1747.

“REV. SIR,—These are to certify that E———R———, the bearer hereof, has taught a Circulating Welsh School, in the parish of Llanegwad, in the county of Carmarthen, from the 22nd day of April last to the 17th day of this instant July; and that he taught in the said school about three score and ten scholars, more or less, to read Welsh, and that he brought them to the Parish Church of Llanegwad to say the catechism, which he only taught them; and I certify also, that the said E———R———, to the best of my knowledge, hath been diligent in teaching his scholars, careful in his attendance, and unblameable in his conversation. As witness my hand the day and year above written.

GRIFFITH THOMAS, Curate of Llanegwad.

These schools were the means of doing vast good in the different parishes in South Wales. See *Siluriana*, by the Rev. D. Ll. Isaac. A few years ago a neat and commodious school-room was erected at this place, through the exertion of the worthy Vicar, and the gentry of the locality. The old schoolroom was a mere hovel. I was informed when I visited Llanegwad, some time ago, that the school is a very efficient one; this is a boon to the people of this locality.

Llanarthney.

LLANARTHNEY is situated on the main road which leads from Llandilo to Carmarthen, on the South side of the river Tywy. It is eight miles from the latter place, and six and three quarters from the former place. The population was, in 1851, 2,076. The parish is, 10,994 acres in extent. The date of the building of the

Church cannot now be ascertained; but, from the inscription on a stone inserted in the North wall of the Church, we infer that it must have been partially rebuilt in the year 1632. The Church is dedicated to St. David, according to Professor Rees's essay. "Another says, that it was dedicated to St. Anthony, of whom little is known." Most probably, Arthney is a corruption of Arthen, who was the fourth son of Brychan Brycheiniog. There were formerly several Chapels of Ease to the Mother Church, viz.:—Chapel Dewi, Chapel Erbach, and Chapel Llanlluan, or, Llanlleian; but, they are all now in ruins. Lleian was a daughter of Brychan, there is, therefore, a probability that the Chapel was dedicated to her.

Llanlluan was a place of great celebrity in former days, being one of the five Churches which the Rev. Daniel Rowlands visited once in the month. It was during the time of the old Reformers in Carmarthenshire, what Llangeitho was to Cardiganshire, the resort of hundreds on Sacramental Sundays. The number of communicants, on those occasions, was immense. Tradition says, that it was here that the Rev. Peter Williams was married, and not at the Parish Church. It is an ascertained fact, that he married a Miss Jenkins, of Gorse, which is within a quarter of a mile of the Church. The entry in the Register of Marriages, is very brief, "August 30th, 1748, the Rev. Mr. Peter Williams and Mary, daughter of John Jenkins, were married."

There is no architectural beauty to be traced in Llanarthney Church, but the Church-yard is certainly an object of attraction, being studded with large old Yew trees, and kept beautifully clean. Reclining on the South side of the tower or steeple, may be seen an ancient Saxon Cross, very thick and massive. The shaft is partially carved, and spreads into a circle on the top. There was, evidently, an inscription on it, but, it has been completely obliterated by the corroding hand of time. The communion chalice at the above Church, ought not to be passed over in silence, on account of its antiquity. It has the following inscription engraved on it, "*Pocvlvn Ecclesie de Llanarthne, 1574.*"

Another conspicuous object within a short distance of the village is Taxton's Tower, which was erected by the late Sir William Taxton, to commemorate the death and services of Lord Nelson.

The landscape from this hill baffles description, commanding as it does a view of the fertile vale of the Tywy, Dryslwyn Castle, Grongar Hill, Dynevor Castle, and Golden Grove.

OBITUARY OF DISTINGUISHED PERSONS IN CARMARTHENSHIRE.

1820. April 23rd, at Greenhill, near Llandilo, David Heron Pugh, Esq., one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace, and also High Sheriff of the County of Carmarthen. He was an intelligent, upright, and honourable man, and his loss was deeply regretted. The above gentleman was the father of David Pugh, Esq., M.P. for the county of Carmarthen, a gentleman who is highly esteemed and respected by all classes in the county, and father of the late benevolent and exemplary Vicar of Llandilo. The following day, at Llandovery, Edward Jones, Esq., an eminent attorney, and one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the county of Carmarthen. He was a liberal and kind hearted man, and was warmly attached to our excellent constitution in Church and State. On the 29th of the same month, at the Vicarage, Carmarthen, the Rev. David Rowlands, Vicar of Tregaron, and Secretary to Cambrian Society in Dyfed. He was a man of the strictest probity, conscientious and diligent in attending to his sacred profession, and was extremely anxious to perform all the duties connected with his station of life. Mr. Rowlands was born at a place called Ffosyffin, in the parish of Llanddewi-Brefi, in the year 1783. His father was a glover, but was not in affluent circumstances; however, he was highly esteemed by his neighbours on account of his virtues and superior information. Mr. Rowlands at an early age was sent to the parish school at Llanddewi-Brefi; in three months he went as far as the Latin Grammar. He made rapid progress in learning. At the early age of 14 he was obliged to leave school, owing to the want of means. He opened a school at Tregaron, and after that at Llangeitho; from whence he removed to Pencader and Llanllawddog. In a few years he entered Ystradmeurig Grammar School, which was carried on under the superintendence of the Rev. D. Williams; he spent five years at this school. During the holidays, he undertook the education of young persons in order to defray his expenses at school. In the year 1806, he received

Holy Orders, and was appointed to the curacy of Llanfihangel-y-Creiddin. In the year 1808, Mr. Rowlands removed from Llanfihangel and became curate of Caro and Llanwnnog, in the county of Montgomery. Whilst he was officiating in this parish, the Rev. Mr. Harries, a missionary at St. John's, Newfoundland, died. The Rev. John Jenkins, vicar of Kerry, recommended Mr. R. to the Bishop of St. David's, who recommended him to the Society, and the appointment to the mission was the consequence. He left England on the 24th of June, 1810, in the ship "Antelope." He continued at St. John's from 1810 to 1816, when he was obliged to resign on account of ill-health. On his return he was appointed to the curacy of St. Peter's, Carmarthen. He displayed the same zeal for the spiritual concerns of his parishioners as he did at Newfoundland. With the consent of the Bishop, he established Sunday evening lectures for the benefit of those who could not attend the morning service. In the month of June, 1818, whilst on a visit at Llanwnnog, he had a violent fit of coughing, and burst a blood vessel. Through the skill of his medical attendants, he got better, and returned to Carmarthen, but he never recovered from the effects of this illness. His excellent Diocesan presented him to the living of Tregaron, which adjoined his native parish. The Bishop was in hopes that a change of air, &c., would operate to his recovery, but all was in vain, before he took possession of his new charge, he was cut down by the icy hand of death. He left an amiable widow and an infant son, eleven months old, and was buried in the chancel of St. Peter's Church, on Monday, March 6th. A correspondent of the "Cambro Briton" says, "that there was scarcely a dry eye to be seen among the numbers of rich and poor who were assembled on the occasion." In the same year, the Principality sustained a great loss by the death of the Rev. Eliezer Williams, M.A., Prebendary of St. David's, Vicar of Lampeter, and Master of the Grammar School. The "Cambro Briton" of the following month has a notice of his death. The writer speaks of him as "possessing rare endowments and eminent virtues; he lived respected as a historian, a scholar, a poet, and a divine. Unassuming and modest in his demeanour, he was dignified without pride, and charitable without ostentation. His time and thoughts were devoted to the general

benefit of mankind, and the advantages which his pupils derived from him in the capacity of a teacher, excite in them the most grateful and lasting remembrance." Mr. Williams was the son of the late Rev. Peter Williams, of Carmarthen; he was born in the parish of Llandeveillg. He was a warm friend to the late unfortunate "Prydydd Hir."

The winter of 1820 was a very severe one, unequalled for many years. The gentry of the county as usual liberally came forward to give aid to the poor; and the following instances of their benevolence is recorded:—"Decbr. 23, the Rev. Thomas Picton, of Iscoed, gave a donation of mutton to the poor of the parish of St. Bride's and Wick, in the county of Glamorgan. In the same month, D. H. Pugh, Esq., High Sheriff of Carmarthenshire, distributed five guineas amongst the poor prisoners in the gaol of the county on Christmas Day. A waggon load of coals were supplied by Lord Cowdor to the prisoners in the borough gaol of Carmarthen; and Mr. Timmins made a similar donaation. The Bishop of St. David's supplied twenty-eight poor families with coals in the parish of Abergwilly. On the 18th of December, a public meeting was held at Carmarthen, for the purpose of adopting means to assist the industrious poor of the town, and a large sum was raised. Lord Robert Seymour gave a liberal donation to the poor of Llandilo. Lord Dynevor gave a plentiful supply of soup to the poor of the neighbourhood of Llandilo; his Lordship also gave £5 to the debtors of the county gaol. Lord Cawdor, Sir William Paxton, George Mears, and Thomas Taylor, Esquires, gave liberal donations to the poor.

THE EARLS OF CARBERY.

1st. Gwaith Voed Lord of Powis; Gweristan Prince of Powis, second son of Gwaith Voed; Kynvin, Blethyn, Meredith, Madoc Lord of Powis Vadoc; Griffuth Mailor, Einon Edvel or Evill; Rhyn ab Einon, Cyhyllan, ab Rhyn, Ievun, Esq.; Madoc Kyffin, Esq.; David ab Madoc Kyffin; David Vaughan, Esq.; Griffith Vaughan, Esq.; Hugh Vychan, or Vaughan, Esq.; John Vychan, Esq.; Walter Vychan, Esq., Sir John Vaughan, of Golden Grove, Knight, was Baron Mullinger and Earl of Carbery., Richard

Vaughan, Earl of Carbery, Lord Vaughan, Baron of Emlyn, 1661, Married Alice, daughter of John Earl of Bridgewater; John Lord Vaughan, Baron of Emlyn and Mullinger, and the Earl of Carbery, married a daughter of George, Marquis of Salisbury. *Her name is obliterated* on the manuscript.

Conwyl Elfed.

IN this parish there is a free school, endowed by Mrs. Anna Warner (a lady from London), for the education of the children of poor parishioners. The account which I had from the present most worthy and intelligent Vicar, the Rev. D. Lewis, very obligingly adds, "It is now improving very rapidly, owing to the excellent turnpike road lately made through it; and the ground in the village sold in 1807, in small portions, being built upon by the new purchasers. Land adjoining the village is let at about £5 per statute acre, which ten years ago was reckoned high at 15s. The vestiges of an old Chapel are still discernible on the farm of Troed-y-rihw, in the northern part of the parish; the wall of the churchyard is easily traced; the adjacent field is called Cae yr Hen Eglwys. It is supposed to have been ruined in the reign of Henry VIII., or perhaps sooner. The country here is full of deep dingles and dorsal hills, all of which converge in a point at Conwil. The chaleybeate spring of Ffosana is reported to have done wonders. Its virtues are very efficacious at this time, but the natives prefer resorting to more fashionable, though less sanative, waters; its constituent parts have been analyzed, and will soon be published. An unnoticed, but very remarkable remain of antiquity is to be seen in the north-west extremity of this parish, viz.: a druidical temple or observatory, I suppose. On the side land summit of a high mountain, facing the south, is a centre stone of a huge magnitude, from 10 to 15 tons, horizontal, oblong, two feet thick, supported by four uprights, one of which has declined from its original position, and sunk deeper into the ground. Four other similar, but smaller stones of about four or five tons surround it; but these have all slipped from their respective *fulcra*, and lie now in a shelving position. Scattered about

at various and irregular distances around, are several smaller stones disturbed and broken up by the masons building the house of Nantyclawdd-ucha. The surface of the sea, at high water, can just be seen from it. The range of stone which I take to be its original meridian, is declined about two degrees to the east, A *Crûg*, or tumulus of large circumference adjoins the temple. The centre stone does not shake. A wide flat, now a turbarry, surrounds it. The large stones are not the stones of the country; they are hard, rough, flaky, brown, large grained, and seemingly weather-worn. In the same part of the parish is *The Line*, a mile and a-quarter long, and about 17 feet high, which is said to have been thrown up by Henry Earl of Richmond on his way from Milford Haven to meet King Richard the Third.

Llanwrda.

LLANWRDA is a parish in the Cwmwd of Caer, in Cantref Bychan, in the county of Carmarthen. The village stands in a pleasant spot on the road leading from Lampeter to Llandovery, a road much used before the days of railways, by persons travelling between Cardiganshire and the iron metropolis. The rattling of the wheels of the favourite old coach, "The Collegian," and the sound of the bugle have ceased long ago; instead of which, the shrill whistle of the iron-horse echoes through the vale. The Church is a plain building, and is dedicated to "St. Gwrda." Inside the Church there are several monuments erected in memory of an old respected family, the Lewises, of Giffach. The Church-yard, in which the rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep, is sheltered by magnificent yew trees, which "cast their ample shades" over the mouldering heaps beneath them. The living is in the gift of the Foley family, the owners of Abermarles, in the same county. The present vicar is the Rev. John Jones, an eminent Welsh orator, and a very exemplary clergyman.

Miss Letitia Cornwallis presented the Churches of Llanwrda, Llansadwrn, and Newchurch, near Carmarthen, with Communion Service. There is an inscription on the south wall of Llanwrda Church recording this gift. Miss Cornwallis was one of the

daughters and co-heiress of the ancient family of Abermarles, in the adjoining parish of Llansadwrn. She left by her will, dated 17th December, 1731, the sum of £400 for endowing a free school, for the benefit of the parishes of Llansadwrn and Llanwrda, to teach all the poor of both parishes to read and write, and the girls to work at their needles, and to knit. She also left £1,000, the interest thereof to be paid to four maiden gentlewomen, born in the county of Carmarthen, of good families, who have fallen into decay; £800 for building a house for the gentlewomen, and for the school master's house; £200 for buying necessary furniture for the gentlewomen's house, and for the repairs of both houses. The money was deposited in the Funds until land could be purchased near the Church of Llanwrda, as directed by her will, for building both houses. The land was not purchased until the year 1793, and the houses were finished and inhabited in the year 1795. By this delay, the capital accumulated so much that the salary of the school master and school mistress increased to £100 a-year, and the gentlewomen receive upwards of £40 each. The school-room and the gentlewomen's house stand a short distance from the village. They are plain, useful buildings. We were informed, by a respectable lady, residing in this parish, that the children are not taught in all the branches of education, as directed by the will. The appointment of the master is in the hands of the rate-payers of Llansadwrn, the majority of whom are quite ignorant of the necessary qualifications of a school master. When such an appointment is vested in a body of rate-payers, this is too often the case.

The first member of the Abermarles family who settled here, was Thomas G. ab Nicholas, who married Elizabeth, daughter of James Burgoyne, second son of the Duke of Burgundy.

John Thomas, of Abermarles, married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Vaughan, of Broadwarden.

Sir Thomas Jones, Knight, married Mary, daughter to Sir James Berkley, Knight.

Sir Henry Jones, Knight, married Elizabeth, daughter to Mathew Herbert, of Swansea, Esq.

Sir Thomas Jones, Knight, married Jane, daughter and sole

heiress of Rowland Pulestone, of Carnarvon, Esq.

Sir Henry Jones, Bart., married Elizabeth, daughter to Richard Herbert, of Montgomery, Esq.

Sir Henry Jones, Bart., married a daughter to Sir Henry Williams, Gwerneved.

Elinor Coh, unmarried.

Elizabeth Coh, married Sir Francis Cornwallis, Knight, in her right to Abermarles.

Thomas Cornwallis, Esq., married Emma, daughter of Sir Job Charleton, Knight. Chief Justice of Chester, Francis Cornwallis, Esq.

Llandebie.

SOME time ago we had the pleasure of visiting Llandebie, a spot dear to us on account of many old associations.

But a change I found there, and many a change,
 Faces and footsteps and all things strange;
 Gone were the heads with silvery hair,
 And the young that were, have a brow of care.

Many an old familiar friend has disappeared since our last visit; some have gone to that bourne from whence no traveller returns."

Mae rhai mewn bedd yn huno,
 A'r lleill ar led y byd,
 Nid oes un gloch a ddichon
 Eu galw heddyw 'nghyd.

Llandebie is highly favoured by nature; it is one of the most pleasant villages in the county. It answers the description of Goldsmith's

Sweet Auburn, loveliest village of the plain,
 Where health and plenty cheers the lab'ring swain.

The chief buildings in this village are the parish Church and the parish school-room. The Church is dedicated to St. Tybieu, daughter of Brychan; she suffered martyrdom near Llangenny. Near the village of Llandebie, in a field on a farm called Llangwyddfaen, there is well called after her, Ffynnon Tybieu—"Tybieu's Well." The Church has been thoroughly restored some

years ago, through the liberality of Mrs. Du Buisson, Glynhir, and others. It is now quite a model country Church. The unsightly windows were removed, and elegant stained glass was substituted instead. The window above the chancel is a magnificent one; the figures represent "The Birth of our Saviour," "The presentation in the Temple," "The Crucifixion," "The Ascension," and "The Apostles." The present Vicar of the parish is the Rev. Rees Evans, a most exemplary clergyman. This parish is very fortunate in getting good and active clergymen. The late Rector, the Rev. Lewis Morgan, who was Mr. Evan's predecessor, was highly esteemed by his parishioners. There are some beautiful monuments to be seen in this Church raised to the memory of the Vaughans, of Derwydd, and others. In the western porch there is a tablet to the memory of John Edward Prothero, Esq., of the Royal Navy, surgeon, who died November, 1836, Mrs. Prothero, and several members of the family. The Protheros' of Blyne, are one of the most kind hearted families in South Wales; they are always ready to give a helping hand to the poor and needy. Near the west entrance there are several mural tablets, in memory of the Du Buissons of Glynhir, another liberal family. Close to the communion table there are two elegant monuments in memory of Sir Harry Vaughan, of Derwydd, and the Earl of Carberry. Amongst other epitaphs we copied the following:—"Sacred to the memory of Elizabeth, daughter of John Vaughan, of Court Derllys, in the County of Caermarthen, Esq., co-heiress of Richard Vaughan, of Derwydd, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, Chief Justice of the Counties of Caermarthen, Pembroke, and Cardigan, who represented them in Parliament. He was the son of John Vaughan, son of the Hon. Richard Vaughan, of Court Derllys, Esq., one of the sons of John Lord Vaughan, Baron Mullinger and Emlyn, and Earl of Carberry. The above Elizabeth married Thomas, son of Hugh Lloyd, of Danyrallt, by whom she had one daughter, who married Sir Thomas Stepney, Bart., of Llanelly; after his death she married John Vaughan, Esq., Golden Grove, by whom she had no issue. This monument was erected by Lady Stepney; in memory of Sir Harry Vane Vaughan, of Derwydd, Knt., Colonel to his late sacred Majesty Charles the First, who died a Member of Parliament, ye 26th day of December,

1676. This was erected at the charge of his dear relict, the Lady Elizabeth Vaughan, eldest daughter of William Herbert, Esq., of Colebrook, in the County of Monmouth, as a lasting memorial both of him and her great affection towards him. To the memory of Elizabeth, Lady Stepney, wife of the late Sir John Stepney, Bart., many years His Britannic Majesty's Minister in the Court of Dresden and Berlin, and Member of Parliament for the town of Monmouth 21 years. She had by this marriage Thomas Stepney, Esq. She was born March 28th, 1725; died June 9th, 1795."

The sweet companion and friend sincere
Need not the sculptor force the tear;
In heartfelt numbers never meant to shine,
"Twill flow eternal over hearse like thine,
"Twill flow while sense and goodness has one friend,
Or kindred temples have a tear to lend.

The Vaughans were warm royalists. Sir John Vaughan, had a narrow escape from falling into the hands of Cromwell.

THE CHURCHYARD.

It is impossible to walk through the Churchyard and not to think of those who have been buried there for many generations—the pious, the careless,—who were once in the habit of attending the house of prayer, living and dying without ever straying from their native village. The minister, the congregation, the rich and poor, are all mouldering in their cold graves. It has been truly said, "That a Churchyard is a sermon in itself."

"How sweet and solemn, all alone,
With reverend steps from stone to stone,
In a small Churchyard lying,
O'er intervening flowers to move!
And as we read the names unknown
Of young and old to judgement gone."

In the Churchyard of Llandebie there are some curious epitaphs to be seen, but of late years great improvement have taken place in the style of the tombstones and the epitaphs, &c. Unfortunately the literature of the Churchyard is left entirely in some parishes in the hands of the village sculptor, who changes the epitaphs to

suit his own taste and purposes. Books, skulls, spades, urns, &c., are the emblems which are to be seen in our country Churchyards, particularly in the vicinity of the ironworks. Such emblems are more appropriate on the tombs of pagans than Christians. There are not many Churches in the county so well attended as Llandebie. We are glad to find that it is intended to erect a Chapel of Ease in this parish, as the distance is far from the parish Church. Some years ago a New National School-room was opened here. We remember that morning well, when a crowd of young ones, with shining morning faces, were skipping cheerfully to school for the first time. Where is that light hearted group now? Some are grown up to manhood, and others lying in their graves. This school has been carried on with great success since its foundation. There were several mansions in this parish, but they have been converted into farm houses, and their glory has departed. Dyffryn lies between Llandebie and Cross Inn, on the banks of the Loughor; it was formerly the residence of the Leweses, the representative of which is W. P. Lewes, Esquire, of Llysnewydd, who is descended from Ceredig, Prince of Ceredigion. Aberlash, the residence of the Evanses, who are now extinct, is at present a farm house. Glynhir, the residence of William Du Buisson, Esq., stands on a hill which commands an extensive view of the surrounding country. Close to Glynhir there is a beautiful fall formed by the Loughor.

“Smooth to the shelving brink a copious flood
Rolls fair and placid, where, collected all,
In one impetuous torrent down the steep
It thund’ring shoots and shakes the country round.

Blyne, or Blaenau, the residence of an old and highly respectable family of the name of Davies, is at present the property of David Prothero, Esq., M.D., the representative of the family. A short distance from Blyne there is another neat little mansion, Cwmcoch, the property of the same family. Plâs, stands in the village of Llandebie; this building was very large and extensive, but it has met with the same fate as others, having been converted into a farm house. We have heard that this place belonged to a family of the name of Phillips; one of them was a “mighty hunter” in his day. Derwydd, the residence of the Vaughans,

whose names are frequently and honourably mentioned in the annals of the county. We have been informed that there are some beautiful carvings to be seen still in this house. The Derwydd estate belongs to Mr. Gulstone at present, who descends from that family. Piode appears to have been once a house of some note. Many years ago an excellent grammar school was carried on here by the late Mr. Evans, where a great many gentlemen belonging to this and the adjoining counties were educated. It is supposed that there were two chapelries in this parish, but there are no remains of them standing at present. A short distance from the village stands a steep hill called "Dinas," the summit of which is quite level; it is very probable that it is the site of an old military encampment. The view from the top of this hill is delightful; on the opposite side stands Carreg Cennen Castle, standing majestically, in spite of the storms and the destructive hands of man as of yore; and on the other side the pleasant town of Llandilo, and Dynevor Castle. There is a large cave in this hill; and tradition says that Owain Lawgoch, and a host of armed soldiers, are resting in this cave. Several other places in South Wales claim the same honour. Some years ago several petrified bodies were found in this cave. These bodies are to be seen in the British Museum. It is supposed that they took refuge in this cave, the mouth of which was closed. Llandebie was the birth place of John Jones, Esq., barrister-at-law, an eminent lawyer, &c. This proves the old Welsh saying,—"*Yn mhob gwlad y megir glew.*"

Alanguannor.

SIR RICHARD STEELE, &c.

POPE said, that though Steel led a careless and vicious life, yet, he had nevertheless, a love and reverence for virtue. The life of Steel was not that of a retired scholar, hence his moral character becomes more instructive. He was one of those whose hearts are the dupes of their imaginations, and are hurried through life by the most despotic violation. He always preferred his caprices to his interest, or, according to his own notion,—very ingenious, but

not a little absurd,—“he was always of the humour of preferring the state of his mind to that of his fortune.” The result of this principle of moral conduct was, that the man of the most admirable abilities was perpetually acting like a fool, and, with a warm attachment to virtue, was the frailest of human beings.

He enlisted as a private soldier in the Horse Guards, which gave great offence to his uncle, and by this foolish act he forfeited a good estate. His frank temper and wit extorted admiration, and he became the leader of all dissipations of London. Amidst his revelries he was often pensive, for it was in the height of these irregularities he composed his “Christian Hero.” When his companions found out who the author was, they slighted him. In order to make himself successful, as he says, *in town*, he sat down and composed a laughable comedy, “The Funeral.”

He detected the fallacy of the South Sea Scheme, while he himself invented projects neither in magnificence nor in misery. He wanted to coin gold merely to distribute it. The most striking incident of his life, was his sudden marriage with a young lady whom he saw in his wife’s funeral. Although he wrote an essay on the choice of a wife, he united himself to a lady whose character was most uncongenial to his own. She loved money—the companion of vice—dearly; her temper every day grew worse by the perpetual imprudence of her husband.

His second wife was Mary, daughter of Jonathan Shurlock, of Tygwyn, Llangunnor. Tygwyn has been converted into a farm house many years; it is now the property of Mr. D. Buisson, Glynhir, Llandebie. Soon after Steele’s marriage with Miss Shurlock, he requested her to accompany him on a visit. The carriage was ordered, and without informing her where he was going, they drove to the outskirts of London, where they alighted at a boarding school, and a young lady made her appearance, to whom he shewed the greatest affection, inasmuch that his wife asked him who she was. On his acknowledging that it was his own daughter by a relation of Tonson, a bookseller, Mrs. Steele answered, “She shall be mine also.”

The young lady was taken home and treated as their own, and was called by the name of Miss Ouslep. She married a Mr.

Aynstone, of Hereford; the match was a most unsuitable one.—
Chalmer's Memoir of Steele.

Although Steele and his wife did not lead a happy life, his attachment to her was ardent and uniform. It appears that they never parted without bickerings; but he could not bear her absence; he was in the habit of writing impassioned notes three times a day from his office, or from his bookseller's. He would rise up in the midst of his dinner, and despatch a note to "Prue," as he called her, to assure her of his affection since noon. Steele seemed to think that warm affection was all she required. She was left for days in solitude, without any money, when her husband could not rise any. The following note is a feeling remonstrance to her:—

"DEAR WIFE,—I have been in great pain of body and mind since I came out. You are extremely cruel to generous nature, which has a tenderness for you that renders your least dishumour insupportably afflicting. After short starts of passion, not to be inclined to reconciliation, is what is against all rules of Christianity and justice. When I come, I beg to be kindly received, or this will have as ill an effect upon my fortune as upon my mind and body."

In some of his letters, he sneers at Lady Steele's love of money:—"Your man Sam owes me threepence, which must be deducted in the account between you and me; therefore, pray take care of it, or stop 'it." Such letters as the following were sent to her three times a day:—

"I beg of you not to be impatient, though an hour before you see

Your obliged husband,

R. STEELE."

"DEAR PRUE,—Don't be displeased, that I do not come home till eleven o'clock.

YOURS EVER."

"DEAR PRUE,—Forgive me dining abroad, and let niece carry the papers to Buckley's.

Your devoted, R. S."

"DEAR PRUE,—I am very sleepy and tired, but I could not

think of closing my eyes till I told you.

I am, dearest creature,
Your most affectionate faithful husband,

R. STEELE."

It appears that he was obliged to give an hourly account of himself to his fair despot, which must have been very disagreeable.

"DEAR PRUE,—It is a strange thing because you are handsome, that you will not behave yourself with the obedience that people of worst features do; but that I must be always giving you an account of every trifle and minute of my time. I send this to tell you, that I am waiting to be sent for again when my Lord Wharton is stirring."

Such a line was insupportable, and there is no wonder that he grumbled occasionally. Steele passed the latter years of his life in the ancient and pleasant town of Carmarthen. He removed to Carmarthen from Hereford in the summer of 1724, and died at his house in King-street, September 1st, 1729, and was buried in St. Peter's Church. It is said, that his play, "The Conscious Lovers" was written at Carmarthen. He commenced "The School of Action," but he could not finish it. Mr. Nicholls published it in Steele's correspondence. In the year 1727, he was attacked by a paralytic disorder, which impaired his mental faculties. In this unhappy state he would often be carried out on a summer's evening, where the country lads and lasses were assembled at their rural sports, and with his pencil, he gave an order on his agent for a new gown for the best dancer.

There is a rural tablet at Llangunnor Church erected in memory of Sir Richard Steel. There is another relic of the past to be seen in the study of the Rev. James Griffith, the respected vicar of Llangunnor,—the bardic chair of "Dyfed," in which several of the Welsh bards sat. The late Mr. Edward Williams, "Iolo Morganwg," was a welcome guest at the Rev. gentleman's house; being unable to sleep in a bed for many years, he made this chair his resting place. The Rev. J. Griffiths was one of the most patriotic clergymen in Wales. He had a good collection of old and rare books. His hand and heart were always ready to promote the interest of Wales and Welshmen.

The First Day Schools in Wales.

THE first parochial day schools in Wales were founded by the Rev. Griffith Jones, Llanddowror, in Carmarthenshire. Men, women, and children were taught to read God's Holy Word; and were catechised and instructed daily in the principles and duties of religion, at such times of the year as the poor could spare from their labours to attend to them. These schools were entirely supported by the charitable benefactions of Churchmen. It has been publicly asserted that the Church did nothing until lately towards enlightening the Welsh people. This assertion is contrary to historical facts,—there are documentary records and statistics to prove that the Church had put on its strength before the Concomformists “aroused her.”

Those schools were commenced as far back as the year 1730, and they proved an invaluable blessing in the Principality. In twenty-four years 3,185 schools were established, and so many as 150,213 Welsh children received education in them. Glamorganshire clergy availed themselves of these schools a short time after they were established. In the year 1740, we find from an old record a list of schools in Glamorgan, and a great many interesting letters sent from the different clergymen to the founder:—Llansamlet (number of scholars), 90; Llanguick, 96; St. John's, 118; Gelligron in Llanguick, 135; Wenallt in Lantwit, 67; Tyllwyd in Cadoxton, 73; Ynysfach in Lantwit, 56; St. Michael, Cwmafon, 104; Llangynwyd, 69; Eglwysilian, 49; Llandeilo, Talybont, 53; Ton y Planwydd in Cadoxton, 41; Loughor, 41; Ystradgynlais, 94; Llantrissant, 41; Dinas in Llantrissant, 29.

(Copies of Reports for 1741.)

“St. Nicholas in Glamorganshire, June 6, 1741.

REVEREND SIR,—According to the proposals received, there has been a Welsh school kept at Peterstown parish, consisting of many scholars, which we hope has been the very best school in our parts. The master's method in the school was very regular, according to the rules prescribed. The people of that place were

very ignorant concerning religion, but we hope that the Lord has done much good among them, and that the power of it begins to revive.

I am, &c.,

JOHN DEER."

"Newcastle, Glamorganshire, July 5th, 1741,

REVEREND SIR,—Having been acquainted with the bearer hereof, J—— T——, since he came to our neighbourhood; and that I do hereby certify that he has a good character, and has behaved well and gave good attendance to the school during the time he taught it; and the parishioners are desirous that he should continue one quarter longer, [which if you will be pleased to grant, will highly oblige both them and

Yours, &c.,

WILLIAM COOKE,

Minister of Newcastle."

"From the Parishioners of Llantwit.

This is to certify that the bearer hereof, the master of the charity school in our parish, has been very careful in teaching his scholars to read, and grounding them in the church catechism.

Witness our hands this 5th day of May, 1741.

EDWARD MORGAN.

RICHARD CHARLES.

JOHN JENKIN."

"St. John, by Swansea, in Glamorganshire,

July 2nd, 1741.

REVEREND SIR,—The bearer signified his inclination of continuing his school, at St. John's, another quarter, if you would think fit, chiefly because his scholars that frequented his school, there were mostly pretty young, and for that reason likely to forget rather than to improve, what they have so imperfectly as yet attained. He prevailed upon me to give you this trouble, the purport of which is to acquaint you that his behaviour there was

very satisfactory to the neighbours, and he has confined himself very well to the charge allotted to him. As to the proficiency the children have made, I find by public examination, that they begin to lay good foundation for knowledge, and they also shew a great deal of desire to proceed.

I am, &c.,

THOMAS EVANS,

Curate of St. John."

"Eglwysilian, Glamorganshire, July 20th, 1741.

REVEREND SIR,—I wish you abundant success in promoting so great a blessing for poor Wales. Some hundreds of men, women, and children of my acquaintance, have been taught the word of God; His Divine and public worship has since been much more numerously attended; and it is with much more pleasure and profit, they can now be taught to read and attend to the preaching of their minister. Doubtless, Satan, who is jealous of his interest, could not behold this hopeful beginning without attempting to blast it. It is surely the best charity the well-disposed can bestow upon poor Wales; and no doubt our kind benefactors herein will find their reward from Him who never fails to recompense pious and charitable actions. And that you may have life and health to prosecute this great work and find encouraging success, shall be the sincere wish of

Yours, &c.,

D. WILLIAMS."

Schools in Glamorgan, from September, 1741, to September, 1742:—Gellifalgaws in Cadoxton, number of scholars, 42; Abertridwr in Eglwysilian, 40; Llisfan, 21; Kil-bebyll, 30; Cilfach yr Haid, Llanguick, 47; Tonau in Llantwit, 77; Hendre in Baglan, 93; Llanynneur chapel, Llanrhidian, 120; Penylan in Swansea, 53; Neath, 50; Cadoxton village, 55; Llangynnwyd, 43; Allt-y-grug in Llanguick, 52; Michaelstone, 74; Ty yn y Ffram, Margam, 70; Cygyrwen in Llanguick, 41; Flimstone, 47; St. Mary's Church, 52; Siggai in Llantwit, 47; Berthyn in St. Lythans, 21.

WELSH CHARITY SCHOOLS IN CARMARTHENSHIRE.

"Llansadwrn, Feb. 9th, 1740-1.

REVEREND SIR,—I received your kind proposal about five months ago, about a Welsh charity school, to be set up at Llansadwrn, and accordingly, it was set up. All the scholars made good use of their time and great improvement, not only in reading but in the principles of the Christian religion; for I have often examined them myself in publick and private, and I faithfully promise to do all I can to promote and encourage this charitable attempt of instructing the youths of the parishes I am concerned for, and shall take it upon me to catechise them on Sundays, and at other times when conveniently I can. And I hope that the charitable contribution of the worthy benefactors was not misapplied with us; but, that daily improvement will be made, by God's blessing, in that incomparable labour that tends to eternal welfare.

I am, &c.,

WALTER THOMAS,

Curate of Llansadwrn."

"From the Parishioners of Pencarreg, their Minister having died some time before April 8th, 1741.

WE, whose names are underwritten, being the Inhabitants of Pencarreg, certify that the Master of the Welsh School here, behaved well and regularly among us, and has been diligent to teach his scholars to spell and read, and instructing them in the church catechism, earnestly advising them to pray to God and believe in Jesus Christ, to make true religion their business, and to claim to the same with a full purpose of heart all their days. We earnestly beseech our Most Sovereign Lord of life and giver of all good things, to bless our bountiful benefactors and instruments of such mercies, to this poor ignorant country; and, to grant that, we being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God, may together with them, through Jesus Christ, obtain mercy unto everlasting life. *Amen.*

JOHN WILLIAMS.

JOHN DAVIES.

EVAN REES.

JOHN REES.

THOMAS EVAN.

EVAN WILLIAM.

MORGAN THOMAS."

FROM 1740 TO 1741.

PENTRE, number of Scholars, 57; Rhydyffwlbert, near Castell Carreg Cennen, 60; Felindre Sawdde in Llangadog, 54; Llanelly, 44; Pantyllyn, near Llandybie, 54; St. Ishmael, 20; Llanfihangel-Cilfargen, 71; Garth in Tal-llychau, 73; Llangeler, 67; Penboyr, 76; Ystradffin, 44; Llancrwys, 68; Trelech-ar-Bettws, 52; Llannewydd, 42; Mydrym, 47; Cwmdowe in Pencarreg, 73; Pentre-ty-Gwyn in Llanfairarybryn, 45; Kilrhedin, 46; Cilwem, 50; Penrheol, near Cothi Bridge, 62; Llanfynydd, 47; Llanwinio, 48; Llangynderyn, 24; Llanddarog, 57; Llanfihangel-Orath, 78; Llanfihangel-Aberbythych, 52; Llanddowror, 20; Caio, 73; Llanbyddar, 50; Felingwm in Lanegwad, 74; Cwrtycadno in the upper part of Caio, 57; Pencarreg, 46; Llangathen, 46; Llangunnor, 83; Llansadwrn, 66; Nantyllychau in Llanfairarybryn, 60; Troedyroyr in Talylychau, 75; Troedyrhiw in Llanfihangel Rhosycorn, 58; Felin Mars in Llanfihangel, 54; New Well, Llangunnog, 23; Ysgair Goch in Llanfairarybryn, 52; Llandin-gad, 36; Abergorlech, 45; Llansawel, 48.

“Llangeler, Carmarthenshire, Feb. 7th, 1740-1.

THIS is to certify that the master employed to teach a Welsh school, in the parish of Penboyr, has discharged his office well, both in teaching his scholars to read, to say the church catechism, and to answer many other questions in the Christian religion. I do assure you, that he is a pious, humble, laborious, sober man, and a prudent member of the church of England, and every way qualified for his business. He has attended his school constantly through the whole quarter, as I have been credibly informed by his neighbours; and found the truth thereof when I examined his scholars, by the good progress they made in so short a time in their books and catechism.

Witness my hand,

P. EVANS,

Vicar of Llangeler.”

“Talley, Carmarthenshire, Feb. 7th, 1740-1.

I, Evan Jones, minister of the parish of Talley, have inspected the Welsh Charity School in our parish, and find that the scholars

therein have (by the blessing of God) made a considerable progress in Christian knowledge, for which we desire our hearty thanks to the benefactors."

From the same Clergyman.

"May 8th, 1741.

REV. SIR,—I have inspected the Welsh School in our neighbourhood, set up last winter, have procured houses gratis for them, and likewise examined the scholars publicly and privately, and find, through the blessing of God, much good has been done towards answering the end proposed. I have no more to add, but we pray God to give you and the worthy benefactors further success in your pious endeavours for the good of our poor fellow creatures, that we and they may gain the favour and approbation of God, and it is no matter how we are treated or thought of by perverse and sensual men.

I am, &c.,

E. JONES,

Minister of Talley."

"Forest, Llandovery, May 24th, 1741.

WE, whose names are hereunder written, do certify that a Welsh Charity School was kept at Tynycoed, in the Hamlet of Forest, in the parish of Llandingad, and that the master thereof taught his scholars to the utmost of our knowledge in all things, according to the Rules of the Charity Schools; and do affirm that he behaved himself orderly, according to the laws of the Established Church. In witness, we have hereunto set our hands,

JOHN JONES, Curate of Llandingad,
DAVID MORGAN, Churchwarden,
JOHN WILLIAMS,
DAVID EVANS."

"Llancrwys, Carmarthenshire,

Feb. 3rd, 1740-1.

THESE are to certify, that the master of the Welsh Circulating Charity Schools at Erw Wen, in the parish of Llanycrwys, hath diligently and carefully taught his scholars to spell and read the British language, daily taught and instructed them in the Church

Catechism, brought them to Church to be examined by the minister thereof, observed all the rules and instructions given him in the best manner he could, and all agreeable to the usage of the Church of England.

NICHOLAS GRIFFITHS,
Curate of Llanerwys,

OWEN DAVIES,

DAVID MORGAN."

"Nantybai, Llanfairybryn, May 21st, 1741.

"WE, whose names are here underwritten, do certify that a Welsh school, kept at Nantybai, in Llanfairybryn, by D. J.—, and that the said master behaved himself civil, and to the utmost of our knowledge, in all things according to the rules of the Charity Schools. We further testify that this account is true.

Witness our hands,

HUGH THOMAS, Warden.

REES WILLIAMS,

WILLIAM LLOYD,

JOHN WILLIAMS,

WILLIAM DAVID."

"Mydrim, Jan. 29th, 1740-1.

"THAT the schoolmaster of a Welsh school in the parish of Mydrim, behaved himself honestly, agreeable to the prescribed rules, and that particularly the scholars taught by him made a good progress at school; evidently appearing by their answers in a public examination at Church.

I certify,

JOHN JAMES,

Vicar of Mydrim."

It is likewise certified by the parishioners—

"JOHN EVANS,

JOHN LEWIS,

JOHN THOMAS,

RICHARD PHILLIPS."

"N.B. Having examined the said scholars of the above school, I certify the same,

DAVID LEWIS,

Vicar of Abernant."

P.S. I shall feel thankful if the clergymen of the different parishes will furnish me with all particulars relating to the present state of Schools, Churches, &c., which have been erected within the last twenty or thirty years in the county.

FROM 1740 TO 1742.

LLANFAIRARYBRYN, number of scholars, 41; Godre'n Bryn, in Abernant, 40; Llanpumsaint, 49; Llanddarog, 34; Llanybydder, 39; Llansawel, 64; Kilcarw, in Llangyndeyrn, 83; Gwndwnbach, in Llangyndeyrn, 23; Tydanygraig, in Cilcarw, 58; Myydd Uchaf, in Llandefeilog, 40; Llansadwrn, 32; Llanardd, 38; Bryn Mayog, in Cayio, 49; Cwmcennen, in Llandeilo Fawr, 51; New Well, Llangunnoch, 20; Llandybie, 70; Cwmnant, in Llanon, 63; Llanddowror, 18; New House, in Llangathen, 66; Cappel Bettws, Trelech, 59; Fforddlas in Trelech, 53; Pantycelyn, in Llanfairarybryn, 26; Newcastle-Emlyn, 75; Myddfai, 38; Cwm-amman in Llandeilo, 49; Llanegwad, 59; Pantyberllan, in Llanfynydd, 81.

“Llanddarog, Carmarthenshire,

“12th Feb., 1741.

REV. SIR,—The bearer hereof, teacher of the Welsh school, in the parish of Llanddarog, has diligently attended his business hitherto. I have examined his scholars several times, and found him endeavouring to explain some plain passages in the Church Catechism to the children. Some that came to read were obliged to learn to repeat verses from the Psalms and New Testament. There are about thirty that repeated the Church Catechism in time of Divine Service; some are taught to sing Psalms: and, to give the man his due, he did, as far as I could find, conscientiously perform his duty. If you think fit that I should continue longer in these parts, I shall be as earnest as I can to persuade and admonish all persons whatsoever, to read the Word of God, and to meditate therein day and night, as it is my indispensable duty to do.

I am, &c.,

T. DAVIES,

Curate of Llanarthney.”

"Llanfihangel Orarth, Carmarthenshire,

March 3rd, 1741.

I hereby certify, that the schoolmaster who taught the Welsh Charity School in this parish, brought his scholars to be catechised by me.

JOSEPH JONES,

Vicar of Llanfihangel Orarth."

"Garth in Cayo, Carmarthenshire,

June 10th, 1741.

REV. SIR,—This certifies, that the account you received of the Welsh Charity School in my parish is true, and that the teacher of it discharged his duty of a schoolmaster very diligently. I inspected the said school, and saw the due attendance of scholars, and have examined them publicly in time of Divine Service on several Sundays, in the parish churches of Cayo and Llansawel; and I hope, by the blessing of God, much good has been done thereby. We wish our hearty thanks to the worthy benefactors for their so good and pious intentions. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand.

E. JONES,

Curate of Cayo."

Certificate of Two Clergymen for a Welsh School, at Llanfairybryn, May 29th, 1741.

"REV. SIR,—This is to certify you, that the Master of the Welsh Charity School, near Pentregwyn, in the parish of Llanfairybryn, behaved himself civil and according to the prescribed rules, or anything unbecoming his calling; and the account brought you was examined and found true by us whose names are underwritten.

Witness our hands,

JOHN JONES, Curate, Llanfairybryn.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS, Curate of Llanwrtyd."

"Kilrhedin, Carmarthenshire,

Feb. 9th, 1741.

I have catechised the scholars of the Welsh Schools in the

parish of Kilrhedin, and certify that most part of them can both say their catechism and read very perfect.

JOHN JONES, Vicar,
Clyday."

"Newchurch, Carmarthenshire,

Feb. 2nd, 1741.

To whom it may concern, &c., that the master of the Welsh School in our parish of Newchurch, behaved well, and to the utmost of his knowledge and capacity, exerted himself in the duty of his calling, and that his industry appeared from the proficiency of his scholars, who, to the great satisfaction of the congregation, were often publicly examined.

Witness my hand,

DAVID LEWIS, Curate,
Newchurch."

Certified also, by the parishioners—

OWEN THOMAS, JAMES LEWIS,
EVAN DAVID, GRIFFITH JONES,
JOHN THOMAS, DAVID THOMAS."

From the Vicar of Llangunnor.

"I do hereby certify, to whom it may concern, that the teacher of the Welsh School has, as I am credibly informed, and to my own knowledge, been diligent in the affair of so great an importance by him undertaken; and also most part of the youths of both sexes are very tractable, and require about three months more schooling at least; which time, if granted, I doubt not but that some of them will answer the intent of that charity as well as any I have known or heard of in these parts of our ignorant country.

ANTHONY MORGAN,
Minister of Llangwnnwr.

WILLIAM MORRIS,
Churchwarden.

WILLIAM THOMAS."

CARDIGANSHIRE.

GLANFRAED, CARDIGANSHIRE.—EDWARD LLWYD.

THE old mansion of Glanfraed stood on the banks of the river Leri, a short distance from Llanfihangel-geneu'r-Glyn. It is reported that Edward Llwyd, the celebrated antiquarian, was born at this place. His father was Edward Llwyd, Esq., of Llanvorda, near Oswestry, who was a man of extravagant and dissolute morals. A marriage contract was entered between him and the second daughter of a Mr. Price, of Glanfraed, but owing to his extravagance, he became embarrassed in his finances. The match was broken off, but unfortunately for the reputation of the lady, she proved with child. This circumstance has thrown some obscurity on the place of the birth and early days of Mr. Edward Llwyd. It is supposed that he was born in the year 1660, having entered Jesus College, Oxford, October 31st, 1672.

In the year 1684, he was appointed an under-keeper of the Ashmolean Museum, which had just been presented to the University. He filled the office of under-keeper until the death of his friend, Dr. Platt, which took place in the year A.D. 1690, when he was appointed to succeed him. On account of his knowledge of natural history, he was well qualified for the office. Mr. Lewis Morris says, "That Mr. Edward Llwyd was inferior to no man in Great Britain in natural history, and had prodigious knack in languages. His knowledge in Welsh poetry was none at all, for I have by me some attempts of his that way, which shew that he was not born a poet, no more than Cicero. This hindered him from making any additions out of the poets, for he had but a poor taste of their excellencies, nor of the force of the proofs from them peculiarly; but his *Archæologia Britannica* is a valuable

treasure of the Celtic language; and would have been more so if he had not had so many irons in the fire."—*Owen's British Remains*

In July, 1702, he was created M.A., by the Convocation at Oxford, in consequence of a letter from the Duke of Ormond, being unable to proceed regularly for his degree on account of his travels. Mr. Llwyd was not satisfied with the knowledge he attained by reading; he determined upon travelling in order to improve his store of knowledge by personal examination and research. The first journey he made for that purpose was through his native country. This journey took place in the year 1693. During this journey he collected valuable materials, which he communicated to Bishop Gibson, who was preparing his edition of Camden. About this time he purposed to visit America, but he gave up the idea; his travelling expenses were more than he could afford from his own private means, and, in order to assist him, several of his friends subscribed in order to enable him to follow his favourite plans.

He made another tour through Wales; this time he collected a vast number of fossils and other curiosities, which he deposited in the Museum, but it appears that he failed to arrange them. In the year 1698 he made another tour in South Wales. In this year he completed his *Lythophylacium Britannicum*. Contrary to his expectations, the University refused to publish the work; but through the kindness of Sir Hans Sloan, Sir Isaac Newton, and Lord Chancellor Somerset, it was published. This edition was an inaccurate one; the printing was not superintended by Mr. Edward Llwyd; the gentleman who had the charge of publishing it, had no access to the original specimens, &c.

His next work was *Archæologia Britannica*. In order to collect materials for this work, he travelled through Wales, Scotland, Bas Bretagne, Cornwall, and Ireland. Whilst making his researches in Lower Brittany, for Armorican Antiquities, he was seized as a spy, and imprisoned at Brest; his papers were taken from him. After a short confinement, he was released, and returned to Oxford. For the five following years he devoted his time to arranging his collections. In the year 1707, he completed his first

volume, which contained,—1st. A Comparative Etymology, or remarks on the Alterations of Languages; 2nd. A Latin Celtic Dictionary; 3rd. An Armorican Grammar; 4th. An Armorican English Vocabulary; 5th. Some Welsh words omitted in Dr. Davies's Dictionary; 6th. A Cornish Grammar; 7th. A Catalogue of British M.SS.; 8th. An Essay towards a British Etymologican; 9th. A brief Introduction to the Irish or Ancient Scottish language; 10th. An Irish English Dictionary.

The *Myfyrian Archaeology* says, "that he met with many difficulties, but in spite of all, he collected 180 vols. of old writings. He had been promised admittance to the first libraries in Wales, but when it became known what service he intended to Welsh literature, he was forsaken by his friends; "books in, or of use to, the Welsh language, were not to be encouraged." He died in the month of June, 1709, and was interred in the Welsh aisle, at St. Michael's Church, at Oxford. He left a valuable collection to Sir John Seabright, in whose library they remain for many years. Some of the books were lost, the others subsequently came into the possession of Colonel Johnes, of Havod. Iolo Morganwg spent some time at Havod in transcribing some parts of them. The collection, as well as Col. Johnes's magnificent library, were consumed in the conflagration which levelled Havod to the ground a short time after.

Lledrod.

LLEDROD is situated in a mountainous part of Cardiganshire. This parish has not made much progress in agriculture, improvements, building, &c. The system of drainage was in a backward state in this locality some years ago. The roads before passing the South Wales Highway Act were knee deep in mud. The parish Church is a plain building, of an unimposing appearance. There is nothing ecclesiastical about the building. We are sorry to state that many of our old Churches in country places have been spoiled; the old ones were demolished, and ugly, unsightly ones erected instead, as in the case of Llanddewi-Brefu, which was one of the finest Churches in Wales. This spirit

seemed to be in the ascendancy some thirty or forty years ago. The churchyards are kept in an improper state in some localities in this county. "*Yn mhob gwlad y megir glew.*" This is truly verified in the history of the parish of Lledrod. The Rev. Evan Evans, "*Ieuan Brydydd Hir,*" an eminent classical scholar, bard, and antiquarian, was born at Cynhawdref, in this parish, about the year 1730. He received the first part of his education at Ystradmeurig, under the celebrated Edward Richards, the founder of that school; from there he removed to Jesus College, Oxford, in the year 1751. After he was ordained, he served several Churches as a curate, but he never had a living of his own.

It appears that disappointments preyed deeply on his mind, and led him to seek oblivion to his vexation in excesses. He devoted his early life to the study of his native language, in which he composed several poetical pieces, which were highly spoken of by Mr. Lewis Morris. In the year 1764, he published his chief production, "*The specimen of the poetry of ancient Welsh bards.*" He subjoined to this volume a Latin essay of considerable merit. For the copyright of this volume he received from Dodsley the sum of £30!! He wrote also an English poem, entitled, "*The love of our country.*" Several of his poems were published in the "*Diddanwch Teuluaid.*" He translated into Welsh several sermons. He explored every corner of Wales in quest old MSS., but they were never published from want of encouragement which was promised him, but withheld. He spent the latter part of his life in poverty.

A short time before his death, Paul Panton, Esq., of Anglesea, settled on him a small annuity, just enough to keep him from want, and in return Mr. Evans gave him all his valuable manuscripts, being upwards of 80 volumes. He died in the 58th year of his age, A.D. 1789, and was buried in Lledrod churchyard. There is nothing to mark his grave, not even a common gravestone! The spot where he was buried is almost forgotten. The late Rev. Peter Felix, the respected vicar of Llanilar, who has passed away to another world, told us some time ago, that he remembered one of the family of Cwmllechwdedd being buried in the same grave as Mr. Evans. At the request of a gentleman, residing in Cardiganshire, we called the attention of several gen-

tlemen at the Aberdare Eisteddfod to this subject. They promised to form a committee for the purpose of raising funds to erect some kind of monument to the memory of Mr. Evans, at Lledrod, but there the matter ended.

Cellan.

A short distance from Lampeter, on the banks of the Tivy, lies the parish of Cellan. The church—a plain, unadorned building—stands on a slope above the river Tivy, about a mile from Llanfair-Clydogau. The incumbent is the Rev. Charles Lloyd, of Bettws-Bledrws. The church is dedicated to All Saints. In this parish the celebrated Welsh antiquary, the Rev. Moses Williams was born on the 2nd of March, 1685. He was the son of the Rev. Samuel Williams, vicar of Llandyfriog, and received his elementary education, like many other eminent Welshmen, at the Carmarthen Grammar School. He took his first degree in arts in 1708, and his M.A. in Cambridge, in the year 1718. He was ordained deacon by Dr. Trammell, bishop of Norwich, and priest by Dr. Ottley, bishop of St. David's, who also presented him to the living of Llanwenog, in the year 1715. Two years after he was inducted to the living of Defynock, Breconshire. In 1718, he married Margaret Davies, of that parish, and exchanged the living of Defynock for Chelton Trinity and St. Mary's, Bridgwater. In the year 1732 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society.

He was a Welsh scholar and an antiquary. He rendered great assistance to Dr. Wotton in preparing his edition of "*HYWEL DDA'S LAWS*." Dr. Wotton was cut off by death before his work was brought out. Dr. Clark published it, and wrote a preface, in which he acknowledges the valuable service of Mr. Williams. He wrote several theological works, and left a manuscript of his own life, and a catalogue of the works in the Bodleian Library, at Oxford. The whole were presented to Lord Macclesfield. The present generation who inhabit this parish never heard of his name.

Peterwell.

A short distance from the town of Lampeter, on the road leading from that town to Llanwnnen, in a delightful situation stand the ruins of the above mansion.

The late Rev. David Davies, of Castell Hywel, graphically describes the ruinous state of Peterwell, in some Welsh stanzas:—

Mynych yr a yr ych o'r iau,
A'r asyn a bawr ar lawr dy barlyrau.

The first house was built here by one David Evans, Esq., one of Cromwell's agents. It is said that he enriched himself by spoiling Churches and the Royalists. A house built with such means could not prosper long. The last house was built by his grandson, Daniel Evans, who married Mary, daughter of Morgan Herbert, Esq., of Havod; but he died before the house was finished, 1696. Walter Lloyd, of Foelallt, Llanddewi-brefu, married his daughter, and the Peterwell estate came into the possession of that family. This Walter Lloyd was the father of Sir Herbert Lloyd, of Peterwell.

We have heard some curious anecdotes related by the old people at Llanddewi-brefu, of Sir Herbert Lloyd and his dependents. A man of the name of Thomas William Jerry, a mason, killed a favourite donkey of Sir Herbert's in a mistake. His fellow workman told him that a hare was in some furze close by. He fired upon the supposed hare, but when he went to the spot, he found that he killed his master's donkey. Owing to this mishap he was obliged to leave the country, and for many years he dared not return. On one occasion, during Sir Herbert's absence, two of his workmen dressed themselves in their master's clothes, and went to the Star, at Lampeter, where a large quantity of wine was consumed, on Sir Herbert's account, leaving their master to pay. The landlady fancied that they were Sir Herbert's friends, and she did not find out her mistake until he returned from London. The above Walter Lloyd, of Foelallt and Peterwell, was the attorney general for the counties of Carmarthen, Cardigan, and Pembroke. He represented the county from 1727 to 1734. He canvassed the county in 1741, but was not duly elected. John Lloyd, son of the above attorney general for the above counties, represented the

county in Parliament; he died 1755. He was succeeded by the Hon. Wilmot Vaughan. Herbert Lloyd, Esq., brother of John Lloyd, Esq., entered Parliament 1761; John Pugh Pryse, Esq., Gogerddan, being member for the county. Mr. H. Lloyd, whilst canvassing for a seat in Parliament, about 1760 or 1761, was sent by the corporation to present an address of congratulation to George III. on his accession to the throne, and had the honour of kissing the King's hand. The Rev. Mr. Lloyd, of Galltirodyn, who was in the opposite interest, wrote the following stanzas on the occasion:—

A would-be member brought of late,
 From borough little known,
 In an address of early date,
 His incense to the throne.
 Soon tidings came where Tivy flows,
 Through tyrant harassed land,
 That Lloyd to envied honours rose,
 And kissed the royal hand.
 O had our gracious sovereign's touch
 But cured him of his evil,
 I'd own St. George ne'er boasted such
 A triumph o'er the devil.

It appears that a few years afterwards the baronet, to reward the poet for his wit, recommended him to Dr. Squire to fill the living of Llanarth, which produced the following lines from another pen:—

Hail thrifty bard! well hast thou sung
 And well thy end attained;
 The vulture knight by satire stung
 The muse hath wisely chained.
 Chained is the muse, suppress the thought,
 The knight misunderstood;
 The streams that once preferment brought
 Must be again pursued.
 Proceed vile wasp, and scribble on,
 To greater things aspire;
 Scoundrels ere now have mitres won,
 For instance, Dr. S—re.

Meyrick's Cardigan.

Thomas Evans, the son of the Protector's agent, is characterised in an old MS.—“Thomas Evans, passionately violent in anything, first a covenanter, then an eager advocate for the negative oath,

afterwards most impetuous against a single person, especially the family of his now majestie, an active captain of the horse, and his son David of foote, under the late Committee of Safety, passing oath upon others for their fidelity to the said committee, endeavoured to incite men, about the beginning of April last, to take arms against General Monk, impatient without office and tyrannical in it." The Peterwell estate, after the death of Sir Herbert, came to the possession of John Adams, Esq., of Whitland, who soon spent it and sold it to Albany Wallis, &c. It is now in the possession of J. Battersby Harford, Esq.

Nanteos.

NANTEOS, the seat of Col. Powell, stands in a beautiful secluded valley, a short distance from the roadside leading from Aberystwith to the far-famed Devil's Bridge, surrounded by woods and forests. The scenery is very beautiful here; through the park flows a small river, called "Paith," which means, "view." We have spent many a happy hour on this spot, long ere we dreamt of, much less tasted, the troubles, sorrows, and afflictions of this world. We happened to be there when the present owner attained his majority, and the grand rejoicings which took place on that occasion will long be remembered by the inhabitants of this locality, who seemed to vie with each other in showing their respect to the representative of the House of Nanteos. Alas! many a change has taken place since then. Many old familiar friends have been numbered with the dead, and "Their inhabitants know them no more."

"Hoff ddyddiau fy mebyd hedasant,
Ni chaf eu cwmpeini byth mwy,
Mae adgof o honynt yn rhoddi
I'm calon ryw archoll a chlwy.

"O'r oriau difyrus a dreuliais,
Yn estron i ofid a chur,
Ni'm blinai'r pryd yma un gofal,
Fy nghalon oedd ddiidwyll a phur.

"Pa le mae'm cyfoedion? p'le dywedwch?
Fy ngadael a wnaethant i gyd;
'Rw ffinnau yn awr wrth fy hunan,
Fel meudwy yr wyf yn y byd."

Tradition says that this place derives its name from the nightingale (*Eos*), which used to sing in a small ravine close by. That bird is never heard in Cardiganshire at the present day. As many as a dozen can be heard at one time in the Vale of Glamorgan. The first owners of Nanteos were a family of the name of Jones, one of whom, an heiress, married, in the year 1735, to William Powell, Esq., son of Sir Thomas Powell, Knt., who was one of the judges of the Court of King's Bench, a lineal ancestor of the present owner, Col. W. T. R. Powell. Col. Jones, of Nanteos, took an active part during the civil war in the reign of Charles I. An old MSS. says that "John Jones, one that appeared in the first publique differences for monarchy, and much by reason thereof, yet, in the year 1647, he assisted in reducing the Castle of Aberystwith, a garrison then holding for the King, it was thought on a personall injury offered to him; his principles being without question steadfastly fixed for monarchy, and the true heir thereof; for he was constantly imprisoned, on all securing, pay'd a deep fine in Goldsmith's Hall, decimated and previously sequestered, declined, though sometimes tendered, publique offices whatsoever." There are some elegant Flemish pictures to be seen at Nanteos. The Powells of Nanteos have always been noted for their hospitality. Edward Richards, the founder of Ystradmeurig School, was a frequent visitor at Nanteos, and the family continued friendly with him until his death. He speaks highly of Nanteos in one of his pastorals:—

"Nanteos heb orphwys, o'i mebyd, a Mabwys*
A'r Trawsgoed,† le gwiwlwys, sy'n cynnwys gwyr call;
Gwell ambell awr ddigri, gael rhan gyda rheini,
Na phoeni trysori tros arall.

"Er niwl ac anialwch, a thrawster a thristwch,
Daw dyddiau dedwyddwch, hyfrydwch i'r fro:
Daw Anna‡ i dywynu, cyn nemawr, cân i mi,
Di weli blwy' Dewi'n blodeuo."

Mr. Edward Richards appointed Dr. William Powell and his heirs trustees of his will, as well as the Bishop of St. David's, the

* Mabwys, the ancient seat of the Lloyds.

† Crosswood, the seat of the Earl of Lisburne.

‡ Anna, daughter of William Powell, Esq., and sister of Thomas Powell, Esq., and the Rev. William Powell, L. L. D.

Earl of Lisburne, Jas. Lloyd, Esq., Mabws, and Thomas Hughes, Esq., Hendrefelen.

Anna, daughter of William Powell, Esq., married Richard Stedman, Esq., of Strata Florida. After his death she married Mr. Lloyd, of Peterwell, and at the time when the bard wrote one of his pastorals, she was residing at the Foelallt, Llanddewi-brefu.

The late Col. Powell was Lord Lieutenant for the county, and member of Parliament. He succeeded Col. Johnes of Havod. He was a most kind-hearted gentleman, and an excellent landlord.

Llanio.

LLANIO is a Hamlet in the parish of Llanddewi Brefu, and which is distinguished into the divisions of Llanioissav and Llanio-uchav, was formerly the ancient Loventium of the Romans, and a considerable station on the great western road, called Sarn Helen, between Maridunum or Caermarthen, and Penallt, near Machynlleth. Several coins and culinary utensils have been dug up here, and three Roman inscribed stones are built up in the walls of two cottages on the spot; one of them in the wall by the side of the door is to be read "Cau artis manibus primus;" another, on a chimney of another cottage, to be read "Overioni;" in the porch of the house is a very large one, now serving for a seat and much obliterated, has on it, "Cohors secundæ Augusta fecit quinque passus . . .," which shews that a cohort of the second legion of Augustus was stationed here, and built a part of the walls of the city. Almost the whole of this place is covered with the fragments of the finest brick, which the Romans must have brought with them. There are also some small remains of pieces of brickwork and lime mixed with common stone still to be seen, and an entire piece, having its surface smooth and polished, was taken up not long ago, and placed at the bottom of an oven then making in a neighbouring mill, where it still remains. In one of the grounds of this farm, a large piece of unshapen lead was dug up, which, when melted, weighed

sixteen pounds. There is a piece of ground to the south east of the farm house, called "Cae'r Castell" or the "field of the Castle," in which are still the remains of the foundations of building. At present there are no remains to be seen here.

The Roman road, called Sarn Helen, from Llanio to Machynlleth, crosses the parish of Llanfihangel y Creiddyn in a farm called Brenan.

The Roman road, called Sarn Helen, from Loventium, now Llanio, to Penallt near Machynlleth, passes through a farm in the parish of Llanbadarnfawr called Llwynrhingyll.

Llanddewi-Brefu.

LLANDDEWI-BREFU is embosomed in the Cardiganshire hills. Although the village cannot boast of any fine buildings, it has been highly favoured by nature. The village and the Parish Church stand at the entrance of a deep ravine, through which the river Brenig runs; this river empties itself into the Tivy, a short distance from the Church. The village is noted in Welsh annals, as the place where the celebrated Council was held in the year 519, under St. David, the patron Saint of Wales, and other eminent men, to suppress the Pelagian heresy.

Tradition says, that whilst St. David was preaching, a snow white dove descended upon him from heaven, and sat on his shoulder, and that the ground on which he stood was raised into a hill, at the summit of which the present Church has been erected. It is true that the Church stands on a curious hill, rising in the middle of a plain, but evidently a natural elevation. Another tradition says, that a nightingale perched on a tree close to St. David as he was preaching, and began to sing; the people left the preacher and went to hear the bird, and the indignant saint prayed that the bird should never visit the place henceforth. The nightingale has not been heard in this country since. Leland, the celebrated historian, visited Llanddewi-brefu, and he says it derived its name from the "river Brefi," now called Brenig, on which it standeth.*

*Giraldus Cambrensis and Archbishop Baldwin whilst preaching in the Crusades in Wales, visited this place. The first church was a small building which was built in honour of St. David.

The old legend assigns a different origin :—During the erection of the Church, two oxen were employed to haul stones towards the building ; on one occasion they were overladen, and one of them died from the effort to drag the load up the hill. The other at the loss of his companion, bellowed nine times, when all of a sudden, the hill opened, and a way was made for him to draw his load without any difficulty. The miracle is commemorated in the following lines :—

Llanddewi-Brefi fraith,
Lle brefodd yr ych naw gwaith,
Nes holltodd Craig y Foelallt.

The Foelallt is an old mansion, at one time a place of note, but its glory has faded away, and it is almost in ruins. It is at present the property of J. Inglis Jones, Esq. The parish Church was at one time a magnificent building ; it is dedicated to St. David, it is a gothic structure, and the north transept has been demolished many years ago. This Church also was demolished by the parishioners who attempted to restore it. There is nothing of its former grandeur to be seen. The bells were taken from its massive tower, under the pretence of being recast, but they never found their way back again. Near the west door there is a large stone standing erect, it was called “St. David’s staff,” on which he leaned whilst he was preaching ; there is a rude inscription on it, much of which is obliterated. The last person who deciphered it, was the Rev. Evan Evans, (Ieuan Brydydd Hir). There were several other stones in the churchyard, and an attempt was made to break one of them up by some reckless individuals who had no respect for antiquity some time ago.

Under the south door there is a monumental stone, supposed to be that of Idnerth, Bishop of Llanbadarn Fawr. About thirty years ago, a part of an ox’s horn was to be seen in this Church, called “Matkorn Ych Dewi.” We failed to find any part of it, although we made frequent inquiries respecting it. Dr. Beck, Bishop of St. David, in the year 1187, founded a college for a precentor and twelve prebendaries, in honour of St. David, in this place.

ABBAY OF STRATA FLORIDA. RHOS FAIR, &C., YSTRADMEURIG.

THIS abbey stood about six miles from the ancient town of

Tregaron. The situation of this abbey was most romantic and secluded from the busy hum of the world and all its cares. On three sides it was environed by high and desolate hills, and on the other side by the vale through which the river Tivy glides silently to the sea. It appears that this abbey was a most beautiful and costly building; no expense was spared in ornamenting it, all the walls being covered with the finest glazed tiles. From time to time large pieces of painted glass and paving stones of intersected circles have been dug up here. Some of them are still preserved in the locality. About thirty-five years ago the seal of the abbey was discovered in an adjoining field, by a lad, who, ignorant of its value, sold it to a travelling Jew. The seal was about the size of a crown piece; on one side were the arms of the abbey, and on the other a representation of the Madonna and Child. At present there is a small Church standing on the spot. This Church is dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and we are sorry to add that the present edifice is not worthy of the place. When we visited the ruins everything around seemed as quiet as those who moulder beneath the rich verdure of the burial ground.

"Silence and darkness solemn sisters here,
Twine the sad chaplet of distressing fear;
The mouldering heaps of man dissolved rise,
Present a lesson to Reflection's eyes.
The Tyrant Death his trophies here hath spread,
His triumph are in each memorial read;
The fun'ral yew her nodding tresses waves
With shadowy pomp o'erhang the blended graves.
Traveller, who'er thou art, a minute spare,
See, father, brother, husband, sister share,
In one rude mass, from clay to clay consign'd.
And catch the workings of thy immortal mind,
These cemeteries of departed life
Are kind asylums from its noise and strife."

The stately yew trees which adorned and sheltered the graves of the departed in the time of Leland are gone. This monastery, according to Leland, was founded by Rhys ab Tewdwr, but it is supposed that he mistook him for Rhys ab Gruffydd, who granted a charter for the purpose, in the year 1164. The endowments bestowed upon it by this deed, was afterwards confirmed by Rhys's

sons, in the Church of St. Bridget, at Rhayader, in presence of all their army; it was also confirmed by Henry the Second.

This abbey belonged to the Cistercian Order, and the last abbot was Richard Talley. The property attached to it was very large; it reached two-thirds of the way to Llandovery, one-third of the way to Builth, and the same distance to Llangurig, in Montgomeryshire.

The abbey of Strata Florida was the burial place of a great number of Welsh Princes; amongst others, the following:—Cadell, son of Gruffydd ab Rhys, and brother to Prince Rhys; Ab Gruffydd was buried here in the year 1176; Hywel ab Ieuan, Lord of Arwystli, buried in the year 1184; Owain ab Rhys, buried 1190; Prince Rhys ab Gruffydd, in 1196; Gruffydd, son of Rhys, a noted and famous prince, was buried with great splendour in 1202; Hywel, another of Prince Rhys's son, was buried here, in the year 1104: this unfortunate prince was first deprived of his sight and afterwards treacherously murdered; Mellt or Maud de Breos, widow of Gruffydd ab Rhys, was buried by the side of her husband, in a monk's cowl, 1209; Isabel, daughter of Richard Clare, the Earl of Hereford, and wife of William, Lord of Gower, in the year 1210; Rhys, son of Gruffydd ab Rhys, 1221; Maelgwyn, son of Prince Rhys, in the year 1230; and Owain, son of Gruffydd ab Rhys, in the year 1235. What a pity that this sacred spot is so shamefully neglected. Not a stone is to be seen to mark the last resting place of these distinguished princes.

In the dark and turbulent ages, Strata Florida was an asylum to a great many eminent men. Gutun Owain, an eminent bard and antiquary, made this abbey his home; and during his sojourn here he compiled his "Genealogical Collections." Some of the most valuable records of the nation were kept here. The "Chronicle" of Caradawc of Lancarfan, was kept here, and another copy in the abbey of Conway, North Wales. Caradock's work is a most valuable production. Very little is known of his history; he was a monk, and he flourished about the middle of the 12th century, and his works were translated into English in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, by Humphrey Lloyd, and were published by Dr. David Powell, in the year 1585. Archdeacon

Giraldus and Archbishop Baldwin paid a visit to this abbey, whilst on a tour through Wales, preaching the Crusades. John, the Abbot of Whitland, and Sissulus, of Strata Florida, met them at Lampeter, where there was a priory attached to the abbey.

Giraldus gives an amusing account of a young Welsh Prince who came to escort them from Lampeter to Strata Florida. Gruffydd Grug, of Penmynydd, Anglesea, a learned poet, who carried on a poetical contest with David ab Gwilym—the Welsh Ovid—as it is too often the case with rival lovers, for a young woman in Anglesea, to whom Gruffydd was attached. On this account, a strong animosity sprung up between the two bards. In order to reconcile them, the monks of Gwynlliw priory, near Newport, sent a letter to Gruffydd stating that his rival, David, was dead; whereupon Gruffydd wrote a pathetic elegy on the death of David. But whilst on his way to Anglesea, the messenger sent another person back to David that Gruffydd was dead, and was to be interred at Strata Florida, on a certain day, where Gruffydd's information stated that David was to be buried also. The same day was named for both funerals. David also hastened to pay the last tribute of respect to Gruffydd, with an affectionate poem to his memory. On arriving at Strata Florida, he was greatly astonished on seeing Gruffydd alive and well. Of course, Gruffydd was equally astonished on finding that David was still alive, and from that day to their deaths a most friendly feeling existed between them. This ruse of the monks had the desired effect. Some historians assert that David ab Gwilym was buried under a yew tree, at Strata Florida. The abbey of Talley, claims the same honour. According to the best authority, in the last place he was interred.

A short distance from the ruins of the abbey stands the village Pontrhydfendigaid,—“The bridge of the blessed ford.” Altho' the monks were the greatest bridge makers of those ages, it appears that they did not erect one at this place. It was erected in the days of Edward Richards, the founder of Ystradmeurig School. This bridge was a bone of contention between the parishes of Gwnws and Caron; and he composed two humorous poems on this bridge, which are kept in memory by the old people of the upper part of Cardiganshire.

On the north side of Pontrhydfendigaid there is a small village called Ffair Rhos—Rhos Ffair. At one time there were five fairs held here annually, but they were removed after a warm contest to Pontrhydfendigaid, in order to save the toll. These fairs in days gone by, were the favourite resort of country lovers, and many a sanguinary engagement was fought between persons residing in different parishes: here they generally settled their disputes by an appeal to arms—sticks, &c. were freely used. Happily those days are gone by, and such brutal feuds have terminated. The inhabitants of these localities are chiefly miners, the surrounding hills being rich in lead ore. Large mine works are carried on near Ysppyty-Ystwith. Escair Mwyn lode was discovered by three poor workmen in the time of Lewis Morris of Anglsea, A.D. 1750, the celebrated bard and antiquarian. These men cleared by this discovery, £1,300 each. Lord Lisburne claimed it, but Government sent down a company of Scots Greys, under the command of Col. Johnes, M.P., of Havod, Lord Lieutenant of the county of Cardigan, to take possession of it for the Crown. It was leased soon after by the Earl of Powis. On the road side leading from Rhos Ffair to Rayader there are a group of lakes—six in number: one of them is the source of the Tivy. They abound in trout. Their banks were chosen by Mr. Edward Richards as the scenes for his pastorals. All the way from Rhos Ffair to Rhyader, the country is very desolate, covered with coarse grass—

“Nid oes ond blew garw,
O'r Ffair Rhos i'r dderw yn blaguro.”

The inhabitants of these hills are remarkably kind-hearted to strangers: it is a pleasure to them to do acts of kindness. About two miles from Pontrhydfendigaid, on the brow of a hill commanding an extensive view of the Vale of Tivy, the village of Ystradmeirig is situated, it was at one time a place of note. A castle was built here by Gilbert, Earl of Clare, as an outpost to the castle of Aberystwith. This castle commanded the pass. In the year 1207 the castle was in the possession of Maelgwyn, who was threatened by Prince Llewellyn, and, fearing that his forces could not withstand the attack of his enemy, he demolished it. It is supposed by fire. In this village, there is a celebrated

Grammar School, founded by Mr. Edward Richards, an eminent scholar and bard. He was the son of a tailor, who kept the village public house. He was born in the year 1714. He had an elder brother, Abraham, who was educated at Carmarthen and Hereford Grammar Schools, from whence he entered one of the Universities. During the long vacation he used to keep a school in his native village, to which young Edward was sent, but it appears that he made very little progress in his studies; he was too fond of the various games that were carried on in those days.

At the end of the two years, Mr. Richards re-opened his school at Ystradmeurig, and his fame soon spread over the Principality, and pupils came to him from all parts. In a short time after, he was appointed master of the Lledrod or "Llanfihangel Llether-troed" Endowed School, which had just been established. This school was endowed for forty boys from the upper part of the parish. It is said that Mr. Richards' place of study was a high hill near the village, a beautiful spot for a bard, or a lover of nature, we may add, by way of parenthesis, that this is a field for the geologist, who will see much here to interest him. This hill commands a view of sea and mountain, hill and dale. Some of the hills are wild and rugged, whilst the valleys below are fertile. Mr. Richards was never in holy orders. Dr. Ellis offered to ordain him, but he declined the honour, owing to the responsibility of the office. From his childhood he was a favourite of the *Muse*. His only composition extant is a small book called the "*Eos*." To this work, a short but excellent criticism on his genius and style was written by an eminent classical scholar, the Rev. David Davies, of Castell-Hywel, author of "*Telyn Dewi*." Mr. Davies says of him:—Mr. Richards's intimate acquaintance with the Greek and Roman poets, imparted to his style an uncommon degree of purity and clearness of strength and freedom. His pastorals are written after the model of Theocritus and Virgil, and are the most polished compositions in the Welsh tongue. The language is always chaste and appropriate, the words are well chosen and judiciously placed; like a wall constructed throughout of hewn stones, each is made to occupy its proper station, and could not be removed or changed without injury to the whole building. The component parts of the metre are always

strictly preserved without in any case injuring the sense; the poems are altogether so smooth and flowing, that they cannot fail to delight every reader who has knowledge to understand and taste to relish the beauties of Welsh poetry. There is not a bard in Wales who may not derive instruction and improvement from the study and imitation of the writings of Edward Richards." It would be a great thing if some the present race of Welsh bards were to study and follow his example.

Mr. Abraham Richards met with an accidental death by falling over a precipice called Craig-y-Colommenod on a dark night. The calamity was the means of arousing young Edward from his apathy. He determined to study in earnest, and make up for lost time. He was first sent to Carmarthen school, then under the Rev. Mr. Maddox; after spending some time he removed to Lanarth, into the house of the Rev. Mr. Pugh, as a private scholar. He made rapid progress in the Greek language. In a short time he re-opened a school at Ystradmeurig, which rose to reputation and was filled with scholars from the neighbouring parishes. While going on prosperously, he one day called his pupils together and dismissed them, with an open declaration that he could not do them justice. He devoted the two following years to studying the Greek and Latin languages. His place of study was the parish church, his only companion was the Rev. Evan Evans; they used to meet summer and winter at 4 o'clock in the morning, and commenced their labours with prayer.

He was particularly fond of his aged mother, Gwenllian, and alludes to her frequently in one of his pastorals. His poems were always repeated by the old people by rote, whilst sitting around a blazing fire, during a long winter's night in the upper part of the country. Some time ago a cheap edition of the "*Eos*" was published. Previously the work was out of print. Mr. Richards was a martyr to that painful disease, the gravel. He died on the 4th of March, 1777, and was buried at Ystradmeurig, where there is a Latin inscribed tablet raised to his memory. Although he has travelled to that bourne "from whence no traveller returns," his name will be remembered as long as the river Tivy will flow through the valley beneath to the sea. Some time before his death he made a provision for en-

dowing the school at Ystradmeurig. Mr. D. Richards, (*Davydd Ionawr*) author of a sublime poem "The Trinity" (*Cywydd y Drindod*,) was one of his pupils. Some of the most eminent Welsh clergymen were educated here. The Rev. John Williams succeeded Mr. Richards. He conducted the school Forty years. He was followed by the Rev David Williams, an eminent divine and scholar, and he was succeeded by the Rev. J. Williams Morris. The present master is the Rev. Lewis Evans.

There was an *hospitium* here under Strata Florida. The church is dedicated to St. John the Baptist. There is an exhibition to St. John's College, Cambridge, belonging to this school, for the best Greek scholar. Not far from the village there is an old mansion called Ffosybleiddiaid, belonging to that ancient family, the Lloyds, of Mabws; it is now a farm house. On the road-side leading from Ystradmeurig to Aberystwith, there is a deep pool called "Caradoc's Pool." Tradition says that a prince of that name, in order to save himself from falling into the hands of his enemies, destroyed his life by jumping over the precipice to the pool below. Close by there is a farm called Bryncaradog. In the churchyard of Gwnws there is a large stone with an inscription very much obliterated, in commemoration of Caradoc.

DEVIL'S BRIDGE, &c.

This place is visited annually by hundreds of persons from all parts of the kingdom. On the spot there is a large and commodious hotel, first erected by the late Col. Jones, M.P., for the accommodation of travellers. This inn was for many years in the occupation of the late Thomas Taylor, an eccentric character. The old house was pulled down a few years ago, and a new one erected on its site. There are two bridges here over the river "Monach," one over the other. The erection of the lower one is ascribed to the handy works of his Satanic Majesty, who is reported to have erected it on condition that he was to have the first thing that passed over it. We are not told by this old legend who entered into covenant with his Satanic Majesty. We are, however, informed that his Majesty was outwitted, a dog having been decoyed over the bridge as soon as it was finished, and so fell to his lot. In former years, it is said, the Devil used to appear frequently to parties near this bridge; but

the present age is too enlightened for him. Bridges built over difficult places, are often ascribed to the Devil. The first or undermost bridge was erected by the good monks of Strata Florida. The monks were the greatest bridge makers of that age, and rank undoubtedly amongst the greatest benefactors of the human race.* Before the erection of this bridge, the inhabitants residing on the opposite sides of the Mynach could not carry on any intercourse with each other. This wonderful piece of work will stand for ages yet, as a lasting monument to the skill and benevolence of the monks. Mr. Warner called it "Pont a'r Ddiawl," which means, "bridge over the Devil." The approaches to the bridge being narrow and dangerous, it was resolved in the year 1753 to erect a new one over the old one. This bridge has been widened since, and an iron railing placed instead of the stone battlements, which were continually thrown over by mischievous persons.

A short distance from this bridge the Mynach and the Rheidol unite, after rushing headlong over the deep rocky basins which they have formed. The falls of the Rheidol and the Mynach are truly grand and majestic, particularly when they are flooded. The noise of these mighty waters when they meet is enough to make the stoutest heart tremble, the whole valley being covered with clouds of spray. After contending with each other for some time, they mingle and glide in peace to the sea. On one occasion an angler went to amuse himself near these falls, and when in a secluded spot, he hooked an extraordinary large fish, which it is supposed was a salmon. No sooner did this monster fish make his appearance above water, than the poor man ran for his life, declaring he had hooked one of the inhabitants of the lower regions. Rod, line and fish were left to fight it out.

In a rock adjacent to the grand fall of the Mynach there is a cave, called the "Robbers' Cave." In the early part of last century there resided in the town of Tregaron, a publican of the name of Matthew Evans, who had three sons and a daughter. These children were at an early age inculcated in the very dishonourable

* John Hughes, Esq., Lluestgwilym, Aberystwith, says, "That these hospitia were founded by Knights of St. John of Jerusalem; and that they built the Devil's Bridge,"

practice of thieving by Matthew and his worthy spouse, and were known by the name of "Plant Matt." After a while they extended the sphere of their operations, and became noted highway robbers, and this cave became their place of abode. One of them is said to have been buried near the bridge. They carried on their nefarious practices for many years, but were at last apprehended and executed.

A short distance from the "Devil's Bridge," on the Llanidloes road, there is a small Church called Ysptyty Cefnfaen. This church is of modern erection, and plainly constructed. There was an hospitium here under Strata Florida; the church was also built by the monks of that abbey. According to some authorities, the Church is built on the spot where a druidical temple once stood; in the Churchyard there were four large stones forming a periphery of a quadrant of a circle—one of them was eleven feet in height. They are now in the churchyard wall. On the opposite side of the river there is a small cottage called the "temple;" it is supposed that a druidical temple stood here also. The Church was a Chapel of Ease under Llanbadarn-fawr, and the living is a perpetual curacy, the patronage being in the hands of the landholders. According to an old survey, they are to pay sixpence in the pound towards the minister's salary. The interior of the Church has undergone great improvement of late years. Some antiquarians supposed that it was called Ysptyty Cefnfaen from this old temple; but others say that it was so called from the high rocky bank between the church and the Rheidiol. Prior to the erection of the "Devil's Bridge Hotel," the village ale-house was a great resort of travellers. Ysptyty was the burial ground of this part of the county for miles around, and the old custom of "offerings" at funerals was kept up here within thirty years ago.

On the west side of the church there is a small but very curious wooden bridge, called "Pontbren yr Offiraid"—the Parson's Bridge; it is supposed that it was first erected by the clergyman for the accommodation of the inhabitants of the western side of the river, who could not attend the service of the church without walking many miles. We have been informed that a rude figure of a man was to be seen cut out of the rock close to this bridge; if such was the case, it has been worn out by the water many years ago. The

Rheidol is confined here between two projecting rocks of great depth. The paths leading to this bridge are very dangerous to strangers, but the inhabitants are in the habit of crossing in safety, even on the darkest nights. Mr. Malkin says that gentleman of the name of Mr. Charles Long, late of the Treasury, undertook to jump over this stupendous pass, and actually cleared it in perfect safety. William Jones, Esq., of Llwyn-y-Groes, and several other gentlemen accomplished the same feat. The scenery here is most romantic, the bed of the river all the way from Ponterwyd is confined by stupendous rocks. Great numbers of sheep are lost at this spot—they find their way down the rocks in search of herbage, but seldom return, being invariably swept away by the flood.

LEGEND ON THE DEVIL'S BRIDGE.

Old Megan Llandonach, of Pont-y-Monach
 Had lost her only cow ;
 Across the ravine the cow was seen ;
 But to reach it she could'nt tell how.

The devil that chanc'd to wander that way,
 Said he "Megan what is the matter ?"
 "I'm ruin'd," said she, "for the cow's lost to me,"
 And she set up a dolorous clatter.

Said the devil, "a bridge I'll raise from the ridge,
 And the two rocks together I'll join,
 To recover your losses, but the first thing that crosses,
 Must ever and ever be mine."

Old Megan contented, and quickly consented ;
 (Satan hop'd to have made her his prey),
 So under her nose the high arch arose ;
 Said the devil, "now trudge it away."

In her pocked she fumbled, a crust out she tumbled,
 Then call'd to her little black cur ;
 The crust over she threw, the cur after it flew,
 Said she, "the dog's yours crafty sir."

Old Satan look'd queer, and scratch'd his right year,
 And sprang from the side of the ravine ;
 Said he, "a fair hit, the biter is bit,
 For the mangey cur is'nt worth having."

Old MSS.

There are a great number of lead mines in this locality, and the surrounding hills seem to be full of minerals. At Ystumtuen there are large works. These mines yield one part lead ore and three of quartz. Llewernog produces lead, black jack, zinc, and quartz. This mine was for many years left unworked. There are lead mines at Gwaith, Coch, Gelly-yr-Eirin, Cefn Brwyno, Bog, Cwmerfin, Goginan, and several new works opened by adventurers.

Cwmsymlog and several other mines in this locality, were worked by Sir Hugh Middleton, who at one time rented all the mines in Cardiganshire, for the sum of £400 a year. Sir Hugh was the sixth son of Mr. Richard Middleton, of Denbigh, in North Wales. At first he attempted to discover coal in the vicinity of Denbigh, but his efforts were unsuccessful. He subsequently removed to London, where he established himself as a goldsmith. In a short time he succeeded in amassing a considerable sum of money, with which he commenced his mining operations in Cardiganshire. He realized a clear profit of £2,000 a month by his works; but he subsequently spent the whole of his riches in his patriotic undertaking of supplying London with water. When his laudable efforts had been crowned with success, he received the honour of knighthood from King James the First. But his fortune being quite exhausted, he was obliged at last to procure a livelihood by following the profession of surveyor and engineer, and died in the year 1631. He was succeeded in the mines by Mr. Bushell and Sir Francis Godolphin. Sir Francis, however, died shortly after the works came into his hands. Mr. Bushell then carried on the works. This latter gentleman did great service to that unfortunate monarch, Charles the First, who in return granted him permission to coin the silver on the spot, and a mint was established at Aberystwith. Mr. Bushell, like his predecessor, realized a large fortune. He was a warm Royalist, and clothed the King's army. He also granted a loan of £40,000 to his Royal benefactor, and raised a regiment of miners, which he maintained to the end of the contest at his own expense. At the conclusion of the great rebellion, Mr. Bushell gave up the mines in this county, and commenced working the Mendip mines. The coins made at Aberystwith bore the Plume of the Prince of Wales.

Some of these mines,—particularly Cwmsymlog and Goginan,—were deserted for many years. In the year 1690, a valuable mine was discovered on the Gogerddan estate,—the ore, it is said “reached nearly to the surface.” It was worked by Sir Carbery Price, of Gogerddan, and after his death it was purchased by Sir Humphrey Mackworth. In the year 1709 some disputes arose between the partners, and the works soon began to decline.

MR. WARNER’S VISIT TO THE DEVIL’S BRIDGE.

Some eighty summers ago, Mr. Warner, a clergyman from Bath, made a tour through Wales. He gives the following interesting account of the Devil’s Bridge:—“We descended the hill, and proceeded to the Havod Arms, a neat and comfortable house, built by Mr. Johnes—one amongst other instances of his public spirit, as it was erected for the accommodation of those who visit the wonders of this singular country. We were for some time in painful suspense whether or not we could procure beds for the night, as the house was full, and the apartments were all occupied; at length, however, we were made easy by the information that a neighbouring gentleman would accommodate us at his Villa, which stands about half-a-mile from the inn.” Having ordered refreshments to his friendly conductor, and surprised him by a small gratuity, for he exhibited another instance of Welsh disinterestedness, Mr. Warner speaks in the highest terms of the cheerful manner he and his companion were treated by the Welsh,—“C—and I proceeded to explore the horrors of the Devil’s Bridge by ourselves, the guide, who is master of the house, being absent. Our first observations were made from the Bridge. This consists of a single arch, nine-and-twenty feet in span, thrown over the original one, which still remains, in the year 1753. The old arch was built by the Monks of Strata Florida; it is called in Welsh, Pont ar Mynach. The yawning chasm beneath these arches is so overhung by wood that the eye with difficulty catches even a partial view of the gloomy abyss below. This circumstance, however, heightens the impressions of terror which such a scene is calculated to inspire. Fancy, free and fond of painting for herself, pourtrays with her magic pencil to the mind wonders that exceed reality; horrors which have no “local habitation,” and exist only

in vivid and ever shifting pictures of the imagination. In order to obtain a nearer and less interrupted view of this tremendous fissure, and the torrent that rushes through it, we proceeded over the bridge, and turning quickly round to the right hand descended an abrupt and perilous path that conducted us to the base of the rocks, on the eastern side of the arch. Language is but ill calculated to convey an accurate idea of the scene which is here presented to the eye. The awful height of the fissure, which the bridge bestrides one hundred and twenty feet above the observer, rendered doubly gloomy by its narrowness and the wood which overhangs it, the stunning noise of the torrents thundering at our feet, and struggling through black opposing rocks, which its ceaseless impetuosity has worn into shapes strange and grotesque, fill the mind with a mingled but sublime emotion of astonishment, terror, and delight. Having gratified our curiosity here, we clambered up the perpendicular path, and going in a left hand direction from the bridge, about two hundred yards, pursuing a winding descent that leads to a rocky projection, which commands a view of the noble cataract to the westward of the arch. Here the Mynach, bursting at once on the eye in all its terrific majesty, is seen throwing itself down rugged rocks, at least two hundred feet, in four separate tremendous falls, the first leap of nearly twenty feet; after which it is received into a fathomless basin, where, for a moment, it seems to rest its turbid waters, in order to recruit its strength and pour with greater violence down a second fall of sixty feet. Its third attempt decreases again twenty feet, and here it falls amongst broken rocks, which in vain present themselves as a barrier to its passage. Mr. Warner's contemplations amidst this "awful scenery" as he calls it, was prevented owing to a fearful thunderstorm which took place, which raged all night. He says in his second letter on the Devil's Bridge,—“I could almost say with the unfortunate Clarence :—

“O I have pass'd a miserable night,
So full of fearful sounds, of ugly sights,
That as I am a Christian faithful man,
I would not spend another such a night
Though 'twere to buy a world of happy days,
So full of dismal terror was the time.”

Mr. Warner found the bedrooms of the Inn all engaged before they arrived at the Devil's Bridge; he and his friend were obliged to sleep at a house some distance from the Inn, the only private one in this wild and solitary neighbourhood. Mr. W. and his friend spent some time at the Inn, 'till the clock told ten; finding, however, that the storm increased instead of abating, they determined to brave the fury of the storm; a chambermaid and a postilion from the Inn accompanied them. The scene from the bridge was most sublime. The winds seemed to blow with all their rage from all quarters; the thunders rattled through the sky in peals, loud, successive, and almost uninterrupted; the cataract which tumbled beneath us, strengthened by accumulation of waters, produced by the torrent of rain, added to the din by their ceaseless and aggravated roar, whilst the lightning flashed around them.

It was with difficulty and danger Mr. Warner and his friend reached the house where they intended to pass the night. They were received at the farm house by a stout female, who conducted them in silence to their different apartments; she could not speak one word of English, nor could they speak Welsh. As they had no shutters nor curtains on the windows to exclude the vivid lightning which darted every minute through the windows, he says; "I threw myself, notwithstanding, into the bed, and immediately fell asleep. In short, my friend awoke in the *horrors*, just time enough to observe, by the light of a flash of lightning, an object black and huge glide out of my room. Almost the same moment several deep groans, which seemed to proceed from an adjoining passage, reached my ear. I honestly confess I am no hero, and therefore felt a considerable degree of alarm, though I did not exactly know the cause. I started out of bed, however, and grasped my faithful oaken staff, sallied into the passage, with a view of communicating with C———what I had seen and heard. Before I proceeded a few steps outside my door, my nose encountered some hard projecting substance so violently as nearly to level me with the floor. Corporal anguish quickly banished my mental alarm. I returned to my room, and barricading the door with a table and chair, for there was no latch, I crept again to bed, where, after a time, sleep once more wrapt me in forgetfulness. Morning developed the mystery of the apparition and noise; a large

black sheep-dog, which I saw upon the stairs, accounting sufficiently for the one; and a patient suffering from toothache, explaining the cause of the other. On our return to the Inn, the next morning, we visited the scene of the Devil's Bridge, which had received additional grandeur from the deluge of the night. The view of the falls was less distinct, and consequently more sublime than on the preceding day; a mist floated over the abyss, arising from the foaming of the troubled waters below, which prevented us from seeing the cataracts in detail, and gave to the eye an unbroken whole of a dreadful majesty." The attentive host provided them with an excellent breakfast, after which they started over the mountains to Machynlleth.

Llanbadarn Fawr.

THE village of Llanbadarn Fawr stands on the slope of a hill, which is covered with fruitful gardens and orchards, overlooking the Vale of Rheidol, and within a short distance from the improving and salubrious town of Aberystwith. The chief ornament is the venerable parish church, with its massive tower. The exact date of its erection is unknown, but it is supposed to have been built soon after the Norman conquest; it is a cruciform, and in the early Gothic style. The churches of Llanbadarn Fawr and Llanddewi Brefu are the mother churches of Cardiganshire. In this church the parishioners for many generations were in the habit of worshipping; here they were presented to God in their infancy, here they were married; and in the adjoining churchyard their remains are mouldering. A short time ago a new school-room was opened at a village called Penrhyn-coch, where the "sound of the church-going bell" was not heard before, this school-room has been licensed for Divine service. The present vicar of Llanbadarn Fawr is the Rev. John Pugh, a most exemplary clergyman, and an eloquent Welsh preacher. The churchyard of Llanbadarn is neatly kept, not like many in the county, where no more respect is paid to the last resting place of the dead than a common playground. Some years ago it was the custom in this parish to clean all the graves

at Easter. There is something beautiful and touching in this custom; it shows that even the icy hand of death cannot wholly extinguish the warm affection that binds man to man in this world. It is customary in some parishes to decorate the graves weekly with flowers. Some time ago we visited the churchyard of Llanover; and we saw several withered flowers on the graves. This was a sermon in itself; they had been once like those who were lying beneath the green sod, cheering the eye of man and in full bloom, and their beauty has faded away.

The church of Llanbadarn Fawr is dedicated to Padarn, or Paternus, the son of Pedredin, son of Emyr Llydaw, who was a cousin of Cadvan, with whom he came to this country from Llydaw in 516. He was for some time a member of the College of Iltyd, now called Lantwit-major, Glamorganshire. He left Lantwit and settled at this place, where he planted a monastery, from which he sent to the provinces religious men to preach the Gospel unto the people. Llanbadarn was made an Episcopal See; Padarn had the title of Archbishop, and on account of his piety he was ranked with St. David and Teilo. After labouring twenty years in the See erected by himself, he was recalled by Caradoc to his native country, Lesser Brittany, and was made Bishop of Vannes. The Bishop of Llanbadarn Fawr was present at a Synod held in Worcestershire in the year 603. This place lost its episcopal privilege owing to the turbulent character of its inhabitants, who murdered their Bishop. The name of this Bishop is not mentioned, but it is supposed to be Idnerth. There are several churches in Wales dedicated to St. Padarn.—Llanbadarn Fawr, Llanbadarn Trefeglwys, Cardiganshire, and Llanbadarn Fynydd, Radnorshire. The endowments of the monastery of Llanbadarn were given in the year 1111, by Gilbert Strongbow to St. Peter's church, at Gloucester. "John, the arch-priest of Llanbadarn," who on account of his godly life was "sainted" about the year 1136.

Giraldus Cambrensis and Archbishop Baldwin, whilst on a tour through Wales, visited this place. They went from Lampeter to Llanddewi Brefu, and from thence to Stratflur. Leaving Stratflur, the Archbishop and his train returned to Llanddewi brefu, and from thence proceeded to Llanbadarn Fawr.

We are not informed what was the cause of this unusual deviation from the direct road to the latter place, by returning through Llanddewi Brefu, which they passed on the preceding day, on their way from Lampeter. Giraldus says that the tract of mountains which almost enclose the Vale of Teify bore the name of Ellennith, and were called by the English, Moruge. Sir Richard Colt Hoare, Bart., made a minute inquiry among the natives of those parts; he could not find any ancient or modern name attached to these hills which corresponds with the word in question; he was inclined to think that the word Moruge is only a corruption from Moors or Moorish. The Archbishop and Giraldus rested one night at Llanbadarn Fawr, and a great many people were attracted to the service of Christ on the following morning. He says:—"It is remarkable that this church, like many others in Wales and Ireland, has a lay abbot; for a bad custom has prevailed amongst the clergy of appointing the most powerful people of a parish steward, or rather patrons of their churches, who, in process of time, from a desire of gain, have usurped the whole right, appropriating to their own use the possession of all the lands, leaving only to the clergy the altars with their tenths and oblations, and assigning even to their sons and relations in the church. Such defenders, or rather destroyers, of the church, have caused themselves to be called abbots, and presume to attribute to themselves a title, as well as estates, to which they have no just claims. In this state we found the Church of Llanbadarn without a head; a certain old man, waxen old in iniquity, whose name was Eden Oen, being abbot, and his sons officiating at the altar. But in the reign of Henry I, when the authority of the English prevailed in Wales, the monastery of St. Peter at Gloucester held a quiet possession of this church; but after his death, the English being driven out, the monks were expelled from their cloisters and their places supplied by the same violent intrusion of clergy and laity which had formerly been practised. It happened that in the reign of King Stephen, who succeeded Henry I, a knight, born in Armorican Britain, having travelled through many parts of the world, from a desire to see different cities and the manner of the inhabitants, came by chance to Llanbadarn. On a certain feast-day, whilst both the clergy

and people were waiting for the arrival of the abbot to celebrate mass, he perceived a body of young men, armed according to the custom of their country, approaching towards the church; and on inquiring of them which was the abbot, they pointed to him a man walking foremost, with a long spear in his hand. Gazing with amazement, he asked if the abbot had not another habit, or a different staff, from that which he carried now before him. On their answering "No!" he replied, "I have seen, indeed, and heard this day a wonderful novelty;" and from that hour he returned home and finished his labours and researches. The Archdeacon was very indignant at the conduct of the people, who boasted that a certain Bishop of their Church (for it formerly was a Cathedral) was murdered by their predecessors; and on this account chiefly they claim their ground of right and possession."—*Vide* Giraldus's Itinerary through Wales.

Near Penbryn, the residence of Lewis Morris, on a farm called Troedyrhiw Castell, there is an old tumuli, supposed to be a burial place. These barrows are very numerous in Wiltshire, Cornwall, Scotland, and the Orkney Islands; and in America. When the body was burnt, the ashes were placed in an earthen vessel, and covered with a flat stone or tile. Some years ago one of these urns was turned up by the plough in the parish of Llanfihangel-y-Creiddin. There was to be seen in the churchyard of Llanbadarn a grave stone with this urn inscribed on it, and an inscription, "giving an account of the event!!" The sculptor, like many of the same craft, thought that this would be an ornament. In the churchyard there are two ancient stone crosses, ornamented with some rude carvings. In the middle of the village there was a large upright stone; on the occasion of some rejoicing a bonfire was made upon it, which destroyed a part of it. We find from the number of bequests made to the poor of this parish that the parishioners of Llanbadarn were far more benevolent than the people of the present day. Benevolence is not only the fundamental element of Christian character, but is the breathing of the air, the light, the glory of the heavenly world.

"Such thoughts as these shed holy light
 On Mammon's gloomiest cells,
 As on some city's cheerless night
 The tide of sunrise swells,
 Till tower and dome, and bridgeway proud
 Are mantled with the golden cloud ;
 And to wise hearts this certain hope is given,
 No mist that man can raise shall hide the eye of heaven."

In the year 1752, Mr. Roderick Richards, of Penybont, bequeathed the sum of £104 ; in 1760, Mr. Jacob Evans, of Penlanole, £40 ; and in the year 1783, Mr. John Jones, £50, for the instruction of poor children of this parish. Lewis Jones, Esq., of Caeau Bach, uncle to William Jones, Esq., Llwynnygroes, a magistrate for the county of Cardigan, left £200 for the education of poor children in the *four hamlets*. The late Mr. Jones, of Hayodau a gentleman on whose like the people of this locality will not look upon again—in whom the poor and needy found a friend—had a school at Caeau Bach, a beautiful and secluded spot. The schoolroom has been converted into a dwelling house many years ago.

"Hoff rodfa fy mabolaeth,
 Chwareule bore' myd
 A wnaed i mi yn anwyl
 Drwy lawer cwlwm clyd ;
 Pa le mae'r si a'r dwndwr.
 Gaed rhwng dy furiau gynt,
 A'r plant o'th gylch yn chwaren
 A'u hadsain yn y gwynt.

"Pa le pa fodd mae heddyw,
 Y lluaws yma fu
 Yn eyd elhwaren a chyd ddysgu
 A chyd ymgemio'n gu ?
 Mae rhai mewn bedd yn huno,
 A'r lleill ar led y byd,
 Nad oes un gloch a ddichon
 Eu galw heddyw'ng hyd."

Mr. Lewis, of Abercwmddole, gave the sum of £150 towards instructing poor children in Parcel Canol. During the insurrection of Rhys ab Meredydd, in 1287, Llanbadarn-Fawr was the chief station of the English in South Wales. Rhys became unfaithful to his country, and joined King Edward, who knighted him for his

treachery, but he revolted soon after, and was defeated by Robert Tiptot, Lord Deputy of Wales, who came against him with a powerful army, and 4000 Welshmen were slain, and Rhys was taken prisoner and was executed at York.

MOEL-IFOR

Is at present a respectable farm house ; this ancient building was at one time, the residence of the Gwyn family, who possessed large estates in Montgomeryshire as well as Cardiganshire. The Gwyns are a very ancient family, being direct descendents of Tydwal Gloff, the son of Roderick the Great. Tydwal was wounded in a battle at Conway, in North Wales, called "Dial Rhodri," A.D. 878. Tydwal was wounded in the knee, subsequently he was called "Tydwal the Lame." Evan Gwyn, one of this family, filled the office of high-sheriff for the county, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. Richard Phillips, of Dolhaidd, married an heiress of this house, and the last named mansion became their chief residence. The old mansion was neglected and at last it dwindled into a farm house. The estate became the property of Dr. Davies, of Carmarthen, who married the grand-daughter of the last of the Gwyns. She was the heiress of Erasmus Saunders, Esq., of Pentre, by Jane, daughter of the above Richard Phillips, Esq., of Dolhaidd, and Bridget Gwyn of Moel-Ifor. The Llanina estate belonged at one time to the Moel-Ifor family. The family were deprived of it by means of a false will, the legality of which was disputed in the reign of Charles II., but their attorney deserted them, and they lost. It is stated that he was bribed by the other side. In the time of Cromwell the same attorney acted as an agent to the Protector in this county. He was evidently an unprincipled man.

LLANRHYSTYD.

DESCENDING the hill from Moel-Ifor, the traveller will find himself in the beautiful and pleasant village of Llanrhystyd ; this village stands on the banks of the river Wyre, which flows through the village. The chief attraction is the Parish Church, which is one of the neatest in the county. It has just been re-built at a considerable expense. Close to the Church, is the parish school-room, an old building which ought to give place to a neater structure. At the time of our visit, the children were enjoying their holidays.

The church is dedicated to Saint Rhystyd, son of Hywel Fychan ab Emyr Llydaw, who came to this county with Cadvan. The Church of Llangadvan, in Merionethshire, is dedicated to that Saint. Leland says that "Ther hath bene great building at Llanrhystyd, a mile lower on the banke than Llansaintfride, in Cardiganshire, and sum suppose that ther hath bene a nunnery." It appears that there are no traces of such a building at present. There is a farm house in the parish called "Monachty," which is supposed to be the site of a religious house.

The Danes, in their incursions into Cardiganshire in the year 988, visited this place. They committed sad havoc along the sea-coast. The Welsh chieftain, Meredydd, who was not able to drive them away, gave them a large sum to depart. Llanrhystyd Castle is supposed to be the same as Dinerth Castle. It was destroyed in the year 1135, by Owain Gwynedd, assisted by several of the Welsh chieftains. It was taken again by Cadell, Meredydd, and Rhys ab Gruffydd, who put the garrison to the sword, in revenge for the loss they sustained in the siege. In the year 1158, it was in the possession of Roger, Earl of Clare, who strengthened it. In the year 1199, Maelgwyn ab Rhys took it, and in the year 1204 he destroyed it in order to prevent it from falling into the hands of Llewellyn ab Iorwerth. It is supposed that it was never restored afterwards. In this parish Mabws, now the seat of the Right Hon. William Vaughan, is situated. This was formerly the seat of John Lloyd, Esq., who is also the owner of Dale Castle. It is now in the possession of the Phillippses. Ystrad-Teilo was an ancient mansion and it is now a farm house.

LLANSAINTFRAED.

A short distance from Llanrhystyd, on a small plain bordering the sea, stands the parish church of Llansaintffraed. It is a large building, dedicated to Saint Fraid. There is another church in North Wales dedicated to the same Saint. Leland the antiquarian, paid a visit to this place; he says, that it hath been a great building. Mr. Herbert, the Rector of the parish, informed us, that there are no antiquarian objects to be seen in the parish at present. A short distance from the Church, stands the village of Llanon, and from its name it is supposed that there was a Church or Chapel here at one time.

The next village is Llanddewi Aberarth ; the parish Church stands on a hill by itself, and the village, on the bank of the river Arth. The parish Church is dedicated to the patron Saint of Wales, St. David's. On a hill called Trichrug, about seven miles from this place, there are three tumuli or barrows, from which it derives its name. In the parish of Llanbadarn-Tref-Eglwys, where Monachty, the residence of the Gwynnes stands, a small monastery once stood, which is supposed to be a cell to Ystradflur. Meyrick is of opinion that the site of Dinerth Castle is on these grounds, on a spot called "Yr Hen Gastell ;" others placed it at Llanrhystyd. The neat and thriving town of Aberayron is of modern origin. The Rev. Alban Thomas Jones Gwynne, of Tyglyn, improved the harbour, and erected the pier at his own expense. He obtained an Act of Parliament for the purpose.

TYGLYN AERON.

AN interesting narrative is recorded of Alban Thomas, Esq., an ancestor of the Gwynnes, of Monachty. Mr. Thomas was the son of the Rev. Alban Thomas, of Rhos, in the parish of Aberporth. In early life Mr. Thomas practised as a physician, in London. He was a great friend of Sir Hans Sloane, also of Mr. Moses Williams, an eminent literary character, who was afterwards, rector of Llanwenog.* Mr. Williams, whilst in London, fell in love with a beautiful young lady. It appears, however, that he could wield the pen better than he could win a lady. He had no courage, and determined to do it by proxy. He knew that the young physician was in the habit of visiting the family, and begged on Mr. Thomas to break the ice for him. After much persuasion, the Doctor consented. After conversing with the lady for some time, she plainly told him that she would have nothing to do with Mr. Moses Williams. In vain did this ambassador of love plead on behalf of his friend. She told him at last that if he applied on his own behalf, the result might be different. Mr. Thomas however, retired without making an application on his own behalf. On relating this Williams, with a true chivalric spirit, insisted upon Thomas speaking to the lady on his own account. The Doctor pleaded his youth, insufficiency of means to think of marriage, and several other

* See Cellan.

excuses, but Mr. Williams would not listen to him. At last he consented, made proposals on his own account, and had a favourable reception, she made only one objection, which was, that she should marry a *gentleman entitled to bear arms*. Mr. Thomas here found himself in a fix; as he left the country young, he did not attend to pedigrees. He immediately wrote to his father an account of the adventure. Mr. Alban Thomas, who is said to have been a grave divine and a talented poet, had a pedigree of his family, by which he could trace the Thomases in a direct line from the Lords of Towyn, in Merionethshire. Mr. Alban Thomas returned his answer with arms in due form, and with a genealogical tree. The lady was quite satisfied, and in a short time, Mr. Thomas led her to the hymenial altar. The union proved a most happy one. After her death, Mr. Thomas married Miss Jones, of Tyglyn. He took the name of Jones, and when the Monachty estate came into their possession, the name was changed to Gwynne. In the vale of Aueron, stood Ystrad House, the residence of the Davieses of Llwyd Jack. At Llwyd Jack resided the Lloyd family, who were numerous in this county. Many years ago, the old house was pulled down and a farm house erected in its stead.

ALLT-YR-ODYN.

THIS mansion stands in the Vale of Clettwr, on the road side leading from Carmarthen to Aberaeron. The late D. Lloyd, Esq., who is said to have been a gentleman of fine taste, beautifully ornamented it, and planted several plantations around it. It was the property of the late J. Ll. Davies, Esq. There was an excellent library of ancient Welsh MSS. In the days of David Lloyd, Esq., it was thrown open to the inspection of those who liked to peruse them. The Lloyds of Allt yr Odyn were descended from the family of Castell Howell. David Lloyd of this house was a warm Royalist, like many of the Welsh gentry. Cromwell's faction being in the ascendant, Mr. Lloyd was obliged to compound for his estate. The following is an official document, issued by the Commissioners appointed by Parliament:—

“December 20, 1648. By virtue of an ordinance of parliament unto us directed, bearing date the nineteenth of June, One Thousand, Six Hundred and Forty Eight. The Commissioners have vested and declared David Lloyd, of Allt yr Odyn, in the County of Cardigan-

shire, a delinquent, for his acting in the last insurrection in South Wales against Parliament, and therefore his real and personal estate is sequestered, and his personal estate is incertained and appraised according to the said ordinance, and a record thereof before us. Which said personal estate Evan Lloyd, son of the said David Lloyd, appeared before us, desyred to compound for, whereupon it is ordered that for and in consideration the sum of Seventeen pounds to be paid to the treasurer for the time being, to the use of Parliament, in manner and form following, that is five pounds present, six pounds on or before the five and twentieth day of March next following, and six pounds more on or before Midsummer next ensuing. The said Evan Lloyd, &c., shall——personall estate mentioned in the said inventory mentioned and hereby compounded for. And no other goods or chattels not therein set down, expressed and appraised.

And it is further ordered, that the said Evan Lloyd observing his composition, shall not be disturbed in the possession of the said goods by any of our officers for sequestration, or servants, according to the ordinance of Parliament in that case provided.

Intorat per R. Rowlandson
cler. Commissn.

JOHN MATTHEWS.
THOS. FROWLE.
HUMPHREY EOWER.

Received of the above written David Lloyd, of Allt-yr-Odyn, in the county of Cardigan, for the first payment of his first composition for his actynge in the last insurrection, the sum of five pounds. I say received the day aforesaid £5 by me Jacob Hoctinge, treasurer."

On the back it was written how long it is necessary to keep David Lloyd in acquaintance. "Shew this of the deed sealed by &c., without possession. Sequestered Anno 1638 for disloyaltye," Vide Merrick's Cardigan.

CROSSWOOD PARK.

CROSSWOOD Park, the residence of the Earl of Lisburne, is situated on the roadside leading from Aberystwith to Strata Florida. The mansion is surrounded by hills, which are now covered by beautiful trees, and the scenery around is extremely picturesque.—Close to the residence of the noble Earl flows the river Ystwith, on the banks of which stands Birch Grove (*Yr Allt Fedw*, the beautiful mansion of Lord Vaughan.

The Vaughans of Crosswood are descended from Collwyn, a chieftain, who flourished about the latter end of the eighth century, and whose possessions lay in Denbighshire, North Wales. The present family are descended in a direct line from Sir John Vaughan, who was Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, in the reign of Charles the Second. John Vaughan, Esq., a grandson of the Chief Justice, was created a baron and viscount by King William the Third, in the year 1695, with the titles of Viscount Lisburne, Lord Vaughan, and Baron of Fethers, in Ireland.

In the year 1770, Wilmot, the fourth Viscount, was raised to the dignity of an Earl. The county and the boroughs of Cardigan have frequently been represented in Parliament by members of this family, a list of whom can be found in a valuable "*History of the Parliamentary Representation of Cardiganshire*," by John Hughes, Esq., (Lluest Gwilym), to whom we are greatly indebted for valuable information.

John Vaughan, Esq., of Trawscoed, was the eldest son of Edward Vaughan, Esq., and was born on the 14th of September, 1603, at Trawscoed, the ancient seat of the family. He was elected to represent the boroughs of Cardigan in the Parliament which met on the 13th of April, 1640, and was dissolved on the 3rd of the ensuing month—lasting twenty-two days only. In a biographical sketch of this gentleman, it is said, "that he retired in the year 1641, though not finally, as will hereafter appear." John Vaughan, Esq., afterwards Sir John Vaughan, Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, was disabled on the 1st of September, 1645. When Charles the Second was restored, it is recorded that the county of Cardigan was represented in Parliament by a John Vaughan, but whether he was a member of the family of Derwydd, or one of the Vaughans of Trawscoed, does not transpire.

In the Parliament which met on the 8th of May, 1661, commonly called, "The Long Parliament," John Vaughan, at that time M.P. of the Cardigan boroughs, was made Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, was knighted, and afterwards represented the county of Cardigan in the House of Commons for sixteen years, eight months, and sixteen days. He was succeeded by Edward Vaughan, his son, of whom Bishop Burnet says, "he was a man of great integrity, had much pride, but did great service."

In 1688, Edward Vaughan was succeeded in the House of Commons by John Lewis, Esq., of Abernaut Bychan, who was opposed by John Vaughan, Esq., of Trawscoed, who was subsequently returned for the Cardigan boroughs. The same John Vaughan also contested the county with Sir Carbery Pryse, who was returned; he, however, succeeded Sir Carbery in Parliament, and in the reign of the Second George was returned for the county as John, Viscount Lisburne.

On the 3rd of December, 1755, the Honourable Wilmot Vaughan was returned to Parliament by indenture. Wilmot, Viscount Lisburne, afterwards created Earl of Lisburne, represented the county six times. The Hon. John Vaughan, brother of the Earl of Lisburne, was returned several times for the Cardigan boroughs. The present Earl of Lisburne, represented the county for some time.

DAVID AB GWILYM.

In a farm house called Broginin, in the parish of Llanbadarn Fawr, Gwilym Gam, father of the celebrated bard, David ab Gwilym, resided. David ab Gwilym was the son of Gwilym ab David; this family descended from Bran, one of the fifteen tribes of North Wales. Gwilym Gam married Ardudfyl, daughter of Gwilym Vyohan, of Cryngae, near Newcastle-Emlyn. Owing to some old dispute between the two families, both sides would not consent to the marriage of Gwilym Gam and Ardudfyl. They were very much attached to each other, and at last Ardudfyl proved *enceinte*. On discovering her condition, her father turned her from the house at midnight, in the depth of winter, at the same time sending an injunction to all his relations not to admit her into their houses. After this, she became an outcast, and wandered from place to place.

On hearing of her destitution, her lover found her out, and took her with him to Glamorgan, for the purpose of proceeding to Maesaleg, the residence of Ivor Hael, his uncle, or, as some assert, his brother-in-law. Whilst travelling at midnight, during a severe storm of wind, hail, and snow, David ab Gwilym was prematurely born under a hedge. Anxious to get to their journey's end, they reached Llandaff the next morning, where they were married. But this union was of short duration; Ardudfyl died the same day, and was

buried here. The child was baptized on its mother's coffin. The following stanzas were composed by Gwilym Gam over her grave; the translation is from the pen of the late Iolo Morganwg :—

“In memory of Ardudfyl; whom I yet
 Shall join, fair, gentle form! on Olivet,
 God's Holy Hill!—an angel to my eyes,
 In choir of saints above the starry skies.
 Deprived of her, Oh! what a waste of tears
 To my born soul this dreamy world appears.
 Placed on its brink, to her long home I shed
 My gush of anguish for Ardudfyl dead!”

After paying her a last farewell, he took his infant son to Gwern-y-Gleppa, in Maesaleg, where he lived until the death of his father, when he returned to Broginin, where he and his son Davydd resided. Gwilym Gam married the second time. It appears that this match was not very pleasing to David; he hated his stepmother, and at last determined to quit his father's house, and returned to Gwern-y-Gleppa, where he resided for a long time. On finding that David was imbued with poetic genius, his uncle Llewellyn, son of Gwilym Vychan, of Cryngae and Dolgoch, took him under his care, and taught his young nephew the metres of vocal song, by which means David became a famous bard. Llewellyn was killed by some Saxon incursionists who came to Dolgoch from Pembrokeshire, and David was once more obliged to return to his uncle at Gwern-y-Gleppa. David resided at Maesaleg until the death of Ivor Hael and his wife Nest, who died of a glandular plague, at the palace of the Bishop of Llandaff; they died at the same time.

It is said that John Pascall, Bishop of Llandaff, died of the same plague in the year 1360, in the thirty-fourth year of King Edward the Third. After that event, David ab Gwilym travelled through the principality, returning now and then to “Morganwg a'i muriau gwynion.” On his father's death, he went to reside on his patrimony at Broginin. In his old age, he retired to the Abbey of Tallychau, Llandilo-fawr, where he breathed his last about the fortieth year of Edward the Third's reign. The following lines were written by Hopkin ab Thomas, of Ynys Dawy, in the year 1380. The translation is by Iolo Morganwg :—

“Davydd, whose talents refulgent pour’d numbers in harmony’s torrent
Frindless now lies in his grave:—and what grief rends our bosoms fraternal.

Weep we in dolour, thy architect’s song has for ever departed,
Genius! thy fountain regenerate gushes melodious no longer.

Prophet Taliesin, foretelling no longer of Davydd, illustrious author,
Said,—In Broginin a bard shall be born of mellifluous numbers.

Age of our Saviour, one thousand, three hundred and sixty and eight years,
When died Cambria’s bard, the bright offspring of Gwilym the Worthy.

Under the tombstone there lies he unconscious, at Tal-y-Llychau:
Verdant yon vale that enbosoms the fame and the grave of the tuneful.”

Very little is known of David ab Gwilym’s history in his youthful days; it appears that his parents were highly displeased at some of his early productions, which is supposed was the cause of his quitting his father’s house. During his sojourn at Maesaleg he was appointed steward to his uncle, and also tutor to Ivor’s daughter. The tutor and his pupil became much attached to each other; when Ivor discovered it, he sent her to a nunnery in the island of Anglesea. David followed her there in hopes of gaining admittance to her, and hired himself as a servant in an adjoining monastery. All his efforts to see her proved futile, and at last he returned to the house of his patron. During his stay there, he was elected to fill the bardic chair as chief bard of Glamorgan. He had several contests with the bards of his time, and he always came off victorious. Rhys Meigan, one of his rivals, was so deeply affected by one of his satires against him, that he dropped down dead; that event took place at Baglan, near Aberavon. Rhys, in one of his satires against David, made some allusions respecting his birth under a hedge.

David was a fine looking man, and a great favourite with the fair sex; his amours were not a little licentious, if all the tales related of his adventures are true. On one occasion he made an agreement with all his mistresses to meet him at a particular hour under a certain tree, where each was accustomed to meet him in her turn. In order to see what would occur, he hid himself in the branches of the tree, where he could see and hear what was going on. They all came, and were sorely vexed when they found out the trick, and determined to have revenge; they agreed to kill him the first opportunity that offered; but he succeeded from his hiding place to

pronounce an extempore verse to fire them with jealousy, and at last they began to vent their rage on each other, and in the *melee*, he escaped.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WELSH ROYALISTS.

HUGH MORRIS, or Maurice, was the third son of a respectable freeholder, residing at Pontymeibion, in the picturesque valley of Ceirog, North Wales. He was born in the year 1622. It is not known whether he had any education or not in his youthful days, besides what he gained by self-instruction. When he became of proper age he was apprenticed to a tanner at a place called Gwaliau, in the neighbourhood of Overton, Flintshire. The "Cambrian Register" says that he quitted that situation before his time expired. But this seems doubtful, from some of his poems. It is evident that he was much fonder of wielding his pen than tanning hides. In one of his poems he complains bitterly of the restrictions he lay under by his indentures—he was not allowed to speak to the object of his affections without being fined in the enormous sum of £40, and that when the term of seven years had expired he was delighted with the prospect of gaining his liberty and paying his addresses to his admired fair one. But in this he was disappointed, the "Cromwellian faction" was in the ascendancy, and a new law was passed, which restricted marriages to a secular magistrate. The young couple, instead of having their banns published, were proclaimed as candidates for the state of wedlock, in the market-place for three successive market-days. During this period the unhappy pair were to be kept in a kind of durance vile, and were not allowed to see each other. When this farce was over, the crier's fees paid, and the consent of the parents, &c., the young couple were taken before the magistrate, who concluded the ceremony. This was so repugnant to the bard's feelings, that he made a vow he would not marry as long as this law should be in force. We have no doubt that most of the candidates for the matrimonial state in our days would agree with the bard. He

made a powerful appeal to the passions of the fair sex to petition the ruling power to abrogate such an odious statute :—

“ Rhai cryn pris, i ffwl o ffis,
Am grio'n ffraeth, da y gwyr ei phris ;
Cyhoeddi Gwen ar groes o bren,
O flaen y byd oni flino ei ben ;
Oes neb a wyr achosion.”

“ Oni chaf fy min o honi ei hun,
Heibio yr af heb yr un.”

After his release from his apprenticeship he returned to his father's house at Pontmeibion, and never troubled his head about tanning. After his father's death, he remained with his brother, assisting him on the farm. From the voluminousness of his poetical effusions, he held the pen oftener than he held the plough or the spade in his hand. His fame as a composer, and his promptness at extempore verses soon attracted the attention of the neighbouring persons of quality. He was a frequent visitor at Glascoed, Porkington, Chirk Castle, and Plasnewydd. At Porkington he had an interview with the learned Dr. William Lloyd, Bishop of St. Asaph. He composed some verses on that occasion which are still extant. Hugh Morris was a staunch royalist, and he played an active part in the cause of Charles the First, during the civil war. He did not stand an idle spectator of the scenes passing before him. He exerted all the powers of his pen, and few pens were more powerful in biassing public opinion on the side of royalty.

Hugh Morris, during the ascendancy of democracy, had the prudence to declare his sentiments in allegorical visions, the moral of which might be clearly understood by his countrymen. This mode of proceeding kept him from falling into many scrapes. William Phillip, of Ardudwy, and Rowland Vaughan, Esq., of Caergai, were not so fortunate. Rowland Vaughan had his mansion burnt to the ground, and his estate confiscated, the recovery of which cost him many years of vexatious and expensive law suits. William Phillip fell under the resentment of the ruling power for writing a pathetic elegy on the death of Charles the First. He was obliged to quit his home in the 73rd year of his age, and seek a refuge among the furze and bushes, and clefts

of rocks of the mountains of Ardudwy. He commemorates his deplorable situation in the following lines :—

Ni feiddiaf, llechaf ar fyd llychwyn—'r hawg,
Gwae ni rhai cyffredin,
Am gellwair un gair mewn gwin,
O fawr auhap am Frenin.

Oer im' gilio ffro rhag ffin—neu gerydd
Am garu ty mrenin;
Gorfod o blith garw-fyd blin,
Gael weithiau wely eithin!

It is said that the two loyal veterans met on one occasion in the mountains during their exile, and had just time to compose each his stanza. Rowland Vaughan said :—

Pe cawn i'r Pengryinion* rhwng ceulan ac afon,
Ac yn fy llaw goed-ffon o lin hon ar li,
Mi a gurwn yn gethin yn nghweryl fy mrenin,
Mi a'u gyrwn yn un byddin i'u boddi.

William Phillip answered :—

Pe cawn y Pengryniad ar ben goriwared,
Er gwaned a hyned wyf heno,
A phastwn ddu-ddraenen, 'rwy'n ddeuddeg a thri'gain,
Chwi a'm gwelech i'n llawen yn llowio.

William Phillip at last grew tired of an outlaw's life; he compromised matters with his persecutors. Upon this occasion he composed the following verse :—

Na ffo, gan wyltio, o'r neilldu,—i'r grug,
Nac i'r graig i lechu;
Wyr tonog, os rhaid hyny,
Hwy a'm cant wrth y tan yn y ty.

William Phillip was appointed a collector of taxes under the Protector, a situation most galling to him. In going his rounds as a collector he took care to let the people know that he still adhered to the good old cause. His motto was like his royal master, "*Semper eadem*." In presenting the assessment he read :—

Am frad i'r holl wlad, wyr hyllion,—a'u trwst,
Codi treth anghyffion,
Hwy gant dal a gofalon,
A chas hir o achos hon.

* Roundheads.

On producing his warrant, he added—

Dyma warant Sant* dan ei sêl,—attolwg
Tewlch yn ddiocbel,
Rhag i'r Sant, a'i chwant ni chêl,
Ymgethru a myn'd yn gythrel.

Hugh Morris was not less loyal than Vaughan and Phillip; he was more prudent. He expounded his language in allegories until the storm passed. After the Restoration he spoke no more in parables. Lambert, Vavasor Powell, and others, were brought on the stage under their real names and characters. He caricatured the times like Æsop; he selected his *dramatis personæ* from the brute creation.

Cromwell's cunning and duplicity in working his way to the Protectorate is well delineated in the following lines:—

'Tra'r oedd yr ymdrech rhyngddyn',
Mi welwn lwynog melyn,
O glun i glun heb, ronyn braw,
Yn rhodio draw yn y rhedyn.

Yn nghysgod perth fe lechau,
A'i lygaid fel canwyllau,
Yn hyf gwn fod y cadnaw cam
Yn chwerthin am eu penau.

ON A BACHELOR'S DISSOLUTION.—The following lines are a translation from Mr. Edward Richards's, of Ystradmeurig, "Pastorals:"—

"My day of life to heaven decreed
Is winding up with ceaseless speed,
The night approaches when my head
Shall lie full low among the dead;
Decease will find its prey alone,
No one to listen to my moan;
I must on the cold couch of death
Unheeded yield my parting breath."

Another, in a different metre:—

"My day is declining with diligent speed,
The night fast approaches when low I shall lie,
And ah! I have no one my sick bed to heed,
To weep for my suffering or catch my last sigh."

* Cromwell.

It is said that Mr. Richards died when there was no person in the house.

DAFYDD AB EDMUND was the proprietor of Hanmor, in Flintshire; he lived at Pwll y Gwepre, in the same county, but he sold his estate. At an Eisteddfod held at Caermarthen, where Gruffydd ab Nicholas, grandfather to the valiant Sir Rhys ab Thomas, presided and filled the office of umpire Davydd ab Edmund won the chief poetical prize. This Eisteddfod lasted fifteen days. To this eminent bard the Welsh are indebted for several Welsh metres now in use. He flourished A.D. 1450, and was a cotemporary of Lewis Glyncothi, an eminent bard, and an officer under Jasper the Earl of Pembroke, in whose praise he wrote several poems.

IEUAN DEULWYN.—This person was a native of Pendeulwyn, near Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire; he also flourished the same time as David ab Edmund and Louis Glyncothi. He was an excellent Welsh bard.

TUDOR ALED was another eminent bard of this period; he lived on the banks of the river Aled, Denbighshire. He was a friar of the order of St. Francis. He wrote a poetical account of the miracles of St. Winifred's well, the town of Holywell, as well as the fabulous history of the Holy Virgin. He was one of the followers of Sir Rhys ab I'nomas, of Dinefwr, and was greatly attached to him. He was a pupil and a nephew of David ab Edmund.

SIR DAVID GAM was born at Pettyn Gwyn, in the county of Brecon. He was the son of Llywellyn ab Hywel Vaughan, and was nicknamed David Gam from his squinting eyes. This name has been transmitted down to his descendants, but the family's name has been changed to Games. During the war of the "Roses" Sir David Gam became a zealous partisan of the House of Lancaster, in whose favour he continued until the end of his life. Owain Glyndwr, on the other hand, was a warm and attached friend of Richard, the deposed King. He convened all the estates of Wales to Machynlleth to obtain the acknowledgment of his right which he claimed to the Principality. David Gam also attended,

but with a different object. It was discovered that he came there for the purpose of assassinating Glyndwr. He was immediately secured, and would have suffered death had not some of Glyndwr's friends interceded on his behalf. He was kept in close confinement for a long time, until he was ransomed by the King. As soon as he gained his liberty, he commenced to annoy Glyndwr's friends.

That chieftain became enraged at his conduct, led an army to Breconshire, and devastated his territories, and burnt his house. David Gam quarrelled with Richard Fawr, Lord Slwch, and killed him in High-street, Brecon. A short time before the battle of Agincourt, he raised an army of his tenantry, and accompanied Henry V. to France.

In that memorable battle he distinguished himself by his prowess and valour. He gallantly fell when rescuing the King from imminent danger. His son-in-law, Sir Roger Vaughan, of Bredwardine, Herefordshire, and Sir Watkin Llwyd, of Marchogtir, near Trecastle, met with the same fate. The three were knighted on the field of battle, whilst in the agonies of death, by the King, —the only reward he could give.

The following lines on Sir David Gam, were written by Jeffrey Llewellyn :—

“ My countrymen of olden days,
Bold David Gam demands my lays ;
He who on the Gallic plain
Rests among the valiant slain ;
He who fills a hero's grave,
Oh ! he the bravest of the brave.
When Monmouth Harry, oe'r the main,
To battle France let forth his train
Of beaming bright and gallant mien,
The Squire bold David Gam was seen ;
Proud chivalry's undoubted son,
As e'er a heart of beauty won !
’Twas near the tow'rs of Agincourt,
Where mad Bellona rul'd the sport,
The Monarch sent his herald out
The foe to number, weak and stout ;
And he a tale of terror told,
His breathing chill'd both faint and bold.

'The foes are like the stars of light,
 Their number such—their arms are bright;
 The foes are like the northern wind,
 Of strength too vast to be defin'd;
 Our doom is, if their rage we face,
 Despair, discomfiture, and disgrace.'

Bold Gam he told another tale;
 "I've mark'd the foe on hill and dale;
 There is enough, and that is all,
 Enough to fight, enough to fall,
 Enough to grace our triumph gay
 And full enough to run away."

The Cambrian warrior's story brave,
 To cooling bosoms ardour gave,—
 On they rush'd and charg'd, how well
 The fame of Agincourt can tell;
 The dying Gam was dubb'd a knight."

GIRALDUS CAMBRENSIS.

GIRALDUS CAMBRENSIS was born in the Castle of Manorbier, in the county of Pembroke. In his childhood he displayed a love of literature, and for the ecclesiastical profession, which led his father to call him "The little bishop." He was educated under the care of his uncle, David Fitzgerald, Bishop of St. David's, with whom he remained until he was twenty years of age, and then he went to Paris, where he gained great distinction.

In the year 1172 he returned to England, and gained an ecclesiastical preferment, but in a short time he gained many enemies, on account of his activity in correcting abuses which had crept into the Church. In the year 1176, the chapter of David's chose him to the vacant see, but the King refused to consent to his election, and he was obliged to yield his claim. In the year 1180 he was appointed Archdeacon of Brecon. King Henry II. visited the Welsh borders in the year 1184, became acquainted with Giraldus, and, admiring his learning, took him to his court, and appointed him a preceptor to his favourite son, John, who did no credit to his teacher. He accompanied that prince in the year 1185, as his secretary to Ireland. During his sojourn in that country, he collected materials for the "Topography of Ireland."

Giraldus was a zealous observer and collector of facts, but he was very credulous.

In the latter part of the year 1187, the news arrived in this country of the capture of Jerusalem by Saladin, and all western Europe was thrown into a state of great excitement. Men of all ranks flew to arms with the utmost alacrity to rescue the Holy Land from the infidels. In the universal ardour that diffused itself over Europe, men were not forgetful of their temporal interests; for some, hoping for more magnificent settlements in the soft regions of Asia, sold their possessions for whatever they could obtain.

"The Red Cross flies in the Holy Land,
The Saracen his Crescent waves;
The English soldiers, gallant band,
Seek proud renown or glorious graves."

Henry the Second was led away by the enthusiasm, and proclaimed a crusade. Bulwer says, "There is nothing so contagious as enthusiasm; it is the real allegory of the tale of Orpheus; it moves stones and charms brutes." Baldwin, Archbishop of Canterbury, who was styled by Pope Urban, "The most fervent monk, the warm abbot, the lukewarm bishop, and the remiss archbishop," was sent to preach in Wales. Giraldus was appointed to accompany him. There was a policy in this; Giraldus was the champion of the Welsh church, and his presence would raise Baldwin in the eyes of the Welsh. During this expedition, he wrote one of the most interesting of his books, the "Itinerary of Wales."

THE REV. THEOPHILUS EVANS,
Author of "*Drych y Prif Oesoedd*."

"MANY changes have happened in this world since the Rev. Theophilus Evans, author of "*Drych y Prif Oesoedd*" died. One generation after another have appeared and passed away since he flourished. The storms of ninety winters have blown from the surrounding mountains over his grave in the secluded churchyard of Llangamarch."

A gentleman who wrote a preface to the last edition of the "*Drych*," says, "It would give us great pleasure to spend half a day in the company of such a man. We should give a

great deal to see him on a Sunday morning, and hear his voice reading the hymn of St. Ambrose, "Holy, holy, Lord God of Sabbaoth.'" We are sorry to say that we have no bust or likeness of the good vicar of Llangamarch. The country has been inundated with busts and memorials of persons whose history is unknown beyond their immediate neighbourhood."

The Rev. Theophilus Evans was a native of Cardiganshire: he descended from a respectable family who resided at Penywenallt, near Newcastle Emlyn. His grandfather was Evan Griffith Evans, who was called in his time "Captain Tory," who for his king fought and bled. It is supposed that he was so called from some battles in which he was engaged. It appears that the martial spirit was a kind of heir-loom in the family. Capt. John Evans, of Penywenallt held a commission in the army. Theophilus Evans was the fifth son of Charles Evans, son of Evan Griffith Evans. Theophilus was born in the year 1694, in the first year of the reign of William the Third. He was born nine years after the Rev. Griffith Jones, the Vicar of Llanddowror. About this time several bishops and clergy of the Church of England refused to take the oath of allegiance to William; on that account they lost their livings. In the year 1698 the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge was established. This society did vast good in the Principality, and amongst its first members were several eminent Welshmen. After spending some time in college he was ordained deacon by the Bishop of St. David in the year 1718, and received his priest's orders in the year 1719. His first curacy was Llanddulas, a small secluded country parish in Breconshire. He removed from there to Llanlleonfoel, in the same county. In the year 1739 he was appointed to the living of St. David's, Brecon, which he held until his death.

The Rev. Theophilus Evans married Alice, daughter of Morgan Evans, or Bevan, Gellygaled, Glamorgan; he had five children, three sons and two daughters. One of his daughters married the Rev. Hugh Jones, father of Mr. Theophilus Jones, author of the "History of Breconshire." Mr. Theophilus Jones spent a great deal of his time in his younger days with his grandfather, the Rev. Theophilus Evans. Mr. Evans died in the year 1767, and was buried at Llangamarch.

Mr. Theophilus Jones took a great deal of interest in the Rev. Thomas Price, Vicar of St. Michael, Cwmdru, (Carnhuanawc), author of the "History of Wales." It is said that Thucydides was induced to write his history on hearing Herodotus reciting his in public. Perhaps the same spirit, whilst reading "Drych y Prif Oesoedd," aroused Carnhuanawc to make his antiquarian researches, and write his excellent history of Wales. The "Drych y Prif Oesoedd" was first published in the year 1716; a second edition appeared in the year 1740. At the same time he wrote a commentary on the Lord's Prayer and other works.

The author of the "Drych y Prif Oesoedd" was an excellent classical scholar, and a great reader; he could write Latin with the greatest ease. He was quite at home in the old authors in different languages. He was not in the habit of writing at random, he gives his authority. Mr. Theophilus Jones was also buried at Llangamarch, close to his grandfather.

It appears that the Rev. Theophilus Evans was the first who discovered the medical qualities of Llanwrtyd Wells. Before his time people considered them poisonous.

APPENDIX.

A LIST of Welsh Members of Parliament for South Wales from the 33rd year of the reign of Henry VIII, A.D., 1542, to the 12th year of Charles II, 1660, extracted from the Records of the House of Commons. There are some discrepancies between the following list and another which we have seen in a MSS.

The twelve Welsh counties, and boroughs, and the borough of Callice, were summoned to send Members to Parliament Anno 27th reign Henry VIII, but the return is lost.

SOUTH WALES.

Brecknockshire	Edward Ganmes (?) Games.
Ditto Villa	_____
Cardiganshire	_____
Cardigan Villa	_____
Caermarthenshire	_____
Caermarthen Villa	Griffith Williams.
Glamorganshire	George Herbert, Esq.
Cardiff Villa	John Bassett.
Pembrokeshire	Thomas Jones De Haroldstone.
Pembroke Villa	John Adams De Petrestone (?) St. Petrox.
Haverfordwest Villa	_____
Radnorshire	John Baker, Knight.
Prestyne Villa, Sive Radnor	_____

Anno 1st, Edward VI, 1547.

Brecknockshire	Roger Vaughan.
Ditto Villa	Edward Games (?) Games.
Cardiganshire	William Devereux, Esq.
Ditto Villa	John Mottas, Esq.

Caermarthenshire	Richard Trevor, Knight.
Ditto Villa	William Parry.
Glamorganshire	George Mathews.
Cardiff Villa	John Cokk, Esq.
Pembrokeshire	—————
Pembroke Villa	Henry Adams.
Haverfordwest Villa	Richard Howell.
Radnorshire	Rhees Lewis.
Ditto Villa	—————

Anno 7th, Edward VI, 1552-3.—Began March 1st, and held to March 31st, the following year, when it was dissolved.

Brecknockshire	Roger Vaughan, Knight.
Ditto Villa	Edward Gannes (?) Games.
Cardiganshire	—————
Ditto Villa	—————
Caermarthenshire	Henry Jones.
Ditto Villa	William Parry.
Glamorganshire	George Mathews, Esq.
Cardiff Villa	David Edwards.
Pembrokeshire	John Wogan.
Pembroke Villa	Henry Adams.
Haverfordwest Villa	Richard Howell.
Radnorshire	Charles Vaughan.
Ditto Villa	—————

The Third Parliament was appointed by the King, but he died July before September, when it was to meet.

Anno I. Mary.

Brecknockshire	Roger Vaughan, Knight.
Ditto Villa	Edward Gannes, Esq., (?) Games.
Caermarthenshire	Henry Jones, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Griffith Higgins.
Cardiganshire	John ap Richard ap Ryce (?) Pryce.
Ditto Villa	Jenkin Gwynne, Gent.
Glamorganshire	Anthony Mansell, Esq.
Cardiff Villa	David Evans.
Pembrokeshire	John Wogan, Knight.
Pembroke Villa	Henry Adams, Gent.

Haverfordwest Villa	Richard Tailour, Gent.
Radnorshire	Charles Vaughan, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Rhesius, Lewis, Gent.

Second Parliament.

Brecknockshire	Roger Vaughan, Knight.
Ditto Villa	Edward Gannes, Esq.
Caermarthenshire	Henry Jones.
Ditto Villa	Wil. Aubrey.
Cardiganshire	John ap Rice, Esq.
Ditto Villa	John Powell, Esq.
Glamorganshire	Edward Mansell, Esq.
Cardiff Villa	Edward Herbert, Esq.
Pembrokeshire	Arnold Butler, Esq.
Pembroke Villa	John Herle, Esq.
Haverfordwest Villa	Richard Howell, Esq.
Radnorshire	John Bradshaw, Jun., Esq.
Ditto Villa	Robert Vaughan, Gent.

The Third Parliament I. and II. Phillip and Mary.—Began at Westminster, November 12th, 1554, and held to January 16th, when it was dissolved.

Brecknockshire	Roger Vaughan, Knight.
Ditto Villa	Edward Gannes, Esq., (?) Games.
Cardiganshire	John ap Rhees.
Ditto Villa	John Powell.
Caermarthenshire	Henry Jones, Knight.
Ditto Villa	John ap Harry, Esq.
Glamorganshire	Edward Carne, (?) Knight.
Cardiff Villa	William Colchester, Esq.
Pembrokeshire	Arnold Butler, Esq.
Pembroke Villa	John Garnons of the Middle Temple, Esq.
Haverfordwest Villa	Richard Hordell, Gent.
Radnorshire	Charles Vaughan, Esq.
Ditto Villa	John Knill, Esq.

The Fourth Parliament II. and III. Phillip and Mary.—Began October 21st, 1555, and held to December 9th, when it was dissolved.

Brecknockshire	Roger Vaughan, Knight.
Ditto Villa	—————

Cardiganshire	Henry Jones, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Thomas ap Harry.
Caermarthenshire	Richard Jones, Esq.
Ditto Villa	William Whitman, Esq.
Glamorganshire	Edward Carne, Esq. (?) Knight.
Cardiff Villa	—————
Pembrokeshire	Arnold Butler, Esq.
Pembroke Villa	—————
Haverfordwest	John Button, Esq.
Radnorshire	—————
Ditto Villa	Stephen Price, Esq.

The Fifth Parliament began January 20th, 1557, and lasted to March following, when it was prorogued to November the 5th following, and held to the Queen's death, November 17th.

Brecknockshire	Walter Herbert, Esq.
Ditto Villa	William Aubrey, Esq.
Caermarthenshire	Thomas Johnes, Knight.
Ditto Villa	John Vaughan, Esq.
Cardiganshire	Henry Johnes, Knight.
Ditto Villa	Thomas Player, Gentleman.
Glamorganshire	William Herbert De Cogan Pill, Esq.
Cardiff willa	Lysanna ap Rhyse, Esq. (?) Leyshon.
Haverfordwest	Thomas ap Owen, Gent.
Pembrokeshire	Thomas Catherne, Esq.
Pembroke Villa	William Watkin, Gent.
Radnorshire	Jenner Lewis, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Resius Lewis, Gent.

ELIZABETH,

Anno 1, 1558—9 Met January 23rd, 1558, and held to May, 1559.

Brecknockshire	Roger Vaughan, Knight.
Ditto Villa	Rolland Vaughan, Esq.
Cardiganshire	Harry Johnes.
Ditto Villa	John Wynne, Esq.
Caermarthenshire	Henry Johnes, Knight.
Ditto Villa	William Parry, Esq.

Glamorganshire	William Morgan, Esq.
Cardiff Villa	_____
Pembrokeshire	William Phillips, Esq.
Pembroke Villa	_____
Haverfordwest	Hugh Harries, Esq.
Radnorshire	Thomas Lewis, Esq.
Prestyenne Villa	Robert Vaughan, Esq.

The Second Parliament, Anno 5, Elizabeth, 1563. Began Jan. 11th, 1562-3, held to April 10th following. The second Session began September 30th, 1566, held to January 2nd following.

Brecknockshire	Rowland Vaughan, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Roger Vaughan, Esq.
Cardiganshire	John Price, Esq.
Ditto Villa	John Gwynne, Esq.
Caermarthenshire	Henry Jones, Knight.
Ditto Villa	John Morgan, Gent.
Glamorganshire	William Bassett, Esq.
Cardiff Villa	Henry Lewis, Esq.
Pembrokeshire	John Parret, Knight.
Pembroke Villa	William Revell, Esq.
Haverfordwest Villa	Rice Morgan, Esq.
Radnorshire	Thomas Lewis, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Morgan Price, Esq.

The Third Parliament, 13 Elizabeth, 1571. Began April 2nd, 1571, and lasted to May 29th following.

Brecknockshire	Roger Vaughan, Knight.
Caermarthenshire	John Vaughan, Esq.
Ditto Villa	John Morgan, Gent.
Cardiganshire	John Price, Esq.
Ditto Villa	John Hanmer, Esq.
Glamorganshire	William Bassett, Esq.
Cardiff Villa	Henry Morgan, Esq.
Pembrokeshire	John Wogan De Wiston, Esq.
Haverfordwest Villa ..	John Garvans, Esq.
Pembroke Villa	Robert Davyes, Esq.
Radnorshire	Walter Price, Gent.
Ditto Villa	Rice Lewis, Gent.

The Fourth Parliament, Anno 14 Elizabeth, 1572. Began May 8th, 1572. Second Session of this Parliament began February 8th, 1575, in the 18th year of her reign, and held to March 14th.

The Third Session of this Parliament began January 16th. An: Reg: 23rd, 1580, and held to March 8.

Brecknockshire	Thomas Games, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Walter Games, Esq.
Cardiganshire	John Price, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Edward Davies, Esq.
Caermarthenshire.....	John Vaughan (in whose place deceased Walter Vaughan.)
Ditto Villa	Thomas Wigmores, Gent.
Glamorganshire	William Herbert, Knight.
Cardiff Villa	David Roberts, Gent.
Pembrokeshire	William Phillips De Picton, Esq., (whose place deceased John Wogan De Wiston, Esq.)
Pembroke Villa.....	Robert Lougher, L.L., D.
Haverfordwest Villa....	Rice Morgan, Esq.
Radnorshire	Roger Vaughan, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Watkin Vaughan, Esq.

The Fifth Parliament, Anno 27, Elizabeth, 1585. Began Nov. 23rd, and held to March 29th following. Dissolved September 14th, 1586.

Brecknockshire	Thomas Games, Esq.
Ditto Villa	David Williams, Esq.
Cardiganshire	Rice Price De Gogerthan, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Francis Cheyney, Esq.
Caermarthenshire.....	Walter Rice De Newton, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Edward Dounley, Esq.
Glamorganshire	Robert Sydney, Esq.
Cardiff Villa	Nicholas Herbert, Esq.
Pembrokeshire	Thomas Revell De Kilgarron, Esq.
Pembroke Villa.....	John Vaughan, Esq.
Haverfordwest Villa....	Alban Stepneth, Esq. (Stepney.)
Radnorshire	Thomas Lewis, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Hugh Davies, Gent.

The Sixth Parliament Anno 28, Elizabeth, 1586, met October 29th, continued to March 23rd, when it was dissolved.

Brecknockshire	Thomas Games, Esq.
Ditto Villa	David Williams, Esq.
Cardiganshire	Griffith Lloyd, L.L. D.
Ditto Villa	Francis Cheyney, Esq.
Caermarthenshire	Thomas Johnes De Abermarles, Knight.
Ditto Villa	Edward Dounle, Esq.
Glamorganshire	Thomas Carne, Esq.
Cardiff Villa	George Lewis.
Pembrokeshire	Thomas Revell, Esq.
Pembroke Villa	John Vaughan, Esq.
Haverfordwest	Alban Stepneth, Esq. (Stepney).
Radnorshire	Thomas Lewis, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Hugh Davies, Esq.

The Seventh Parliament, Anno 31st Elizabeth, 1588, met February 4th, and held to March 29th, following, when it was dissolved.

Brecknockshire	Robert Knowles de Porthampl, Esq.
Ditto Villa	_____
Cardiganshire	Richard Price de Gogerthan, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Alban Stepneth de Prendergast Co. Pembroke, Esq.
Caermarthenshire	Hugh Gwyn de Bradwell, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Chollins Meyrick, Esq.
Glamorganshire	Thomas Carne, Esq.
Cardiff Villa	Gabriel Lewis, Gent.
Pembrokeshire	George Devereux, Esq.
Pembroke Villa	Nicholas Adams, Gent.
Haverfordwest	John Perrot, Knight.
Radnorshire	Jevan Lewys, Esq.
Ditto Villa	John Walter, Esq.

The Eighth Parliament, Anno 35 Elizabeth, 1592, met November 19th, and held until April 10th, 1593, when it was dissolved.

Brecknockshire	Robert Knowles, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Mathew Morgan, Knight.
Cardiganshire	Richard Pryce, Esq.

Ditto Villa	Ferinando Georges, Knight.
Caermarthenshire	Walter Vaughan, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Thomas Baskerville, Knight.
Glamorganshire	Robert Sidney, Knight.
Cardiff Villa	David Roberts, Gent.
Pembrokeshire	Thomas Parret de Haroldstone, Knight.
Pembroke Villa	Coniers Clifford, Knight.
Haverforwest Villa	Nicholas Clifford, Knight.
Radnorshire	James Price, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Thomas Crompton, Esq.

The Ninth Parliament, 39 Elizabeth, 1597, met October 24th, and held to February 9th, following, when it was dissolved.

Brecknockshire	Robert Knollys, Esq.
Ditto Villa	David Williams, Esq.
Cardiganshire	Thomas Jones.
Ditto Villa	Thomas Rawlins, Esq.
Caermarthenshire	Walter Vaughan, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Thomas Baskerville, Knight.
Glamorganshire	Thomas Mansell, Esq.
Cardiff Villa	Nicholas Hawkins, Esq.
Pembrokeshire	John Phillipps, Esq.
Ditto Villa	—————
Haverfordwest	James Perrot, Esq.
Radnorshire	James Price, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Stephen Price.

The Tenth Parliament, 43 Elizabeth, 1601, met October 7th, and lasted till December 29th, when it was dissolved.

Brecknockshire	Robert Knollys, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Henry Lewis, Esq.
Cardiganshire	Richard Price, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Walter Price, Esq.
Glamorganshire	John Herbert, Knight.
Cardiff Villa	Robert Lewis, Gent.
Pembrokeshire	John Phillipps, Esq.
Pembroke Villa	John Loughor, Esq.
Haverfordwest Villa	John Cannon, Gent.

Radnorshire	James Price, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Stephen Price, Esq.

Anno I. James, 1603.

The First Parliament, began March 19th, continued to July 7th, 1604; second Session of the same Parliament, began November 5th, 1605; third Session began November 18th, 1606, and continued to May 27th, 1607, and was then prorogued to October 16th, and continued to December 21st, and was then prorogued to February, 9th, following; fourth Session began February 9th, 1609, and continued to July 25th, 1610.

Brecknockshire	Robert Knollys, Gent.
Ditto Villa	Henry Williams, Gent.
Cardiganshire	John Lewis de Abernant, Esq.
Ditto Villa	William Bradshaw, Esq.
Caermarthenshire	Robert Mansell, Knight.
Ditto Villa	Walter Rice, Knight.
Glamorganshire	Phillip Herbert, in whose place when he became Earl of Pembroke, Thomas Mansell, Knight.
Ditto Villa	Mathew Dayes, Gent.
Pembrokeshire	Alban Stepney, Esq.
Pembroke Villa	Richard Curry, Gent.
Haverfordwest Villa	James Perrot, Knight.
Radnorshire	James Price, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Robert Harley, Esq.

The Second Parliament, Anno 12 James I., 1614, began April 5th, continued until June 7th, and was then dissolved in about nine weeks.

Brecknockshire	Henry Williams, Esq.
Ditto Villa	_____
Caermarthenshire	Robert Mansell, Knight.
Ditto Villa	R. Mansfield, (?) Knight.
Glamorganshire	Thomas Mansell, Knight.
Cardiff Villa	William Thomas, Gent.
Pembrokeshire	James Parry, Knight.
Pembroke Villa	_____

Haverfordwest Villa	....	James Perrot, Knight.
Radnorshire	.....	James Price, Esq.
Ditto Villa	.....	Robert Harley, Knight.

The Third Parliament, Anno 18 James, met January 30th, and held to March 27th, and was adjoured to November 14th, and dissolved February, 1621.

Brecknockshire	.....	Henry Williams, Knight.
Ditto Villa	.....	Walter Pye, Esq.
Cardiganshire	.....	Richard Pryce, Esq.
Ditto Villa	.....	Walter Overbury, Esq.
Caermarthenshire	.....	John Vaughan, Knight.
Ditto Villa	.....	Henry Vaughan, Esq.
Glamorganshire	.....	William Price, Esq.
Cardiff Villa	.....	William Herbert, Esq.
Pembrokeshire	.....	John Wogan, Esq.
Ditto Villa	.....	Lewis Powell, Gent.
Haverfordwest Villa	....	James Perrot, Knight.
Radnorshire	.....	James Price, Esq.
Ditto Villa	.....	Charles Price, Gent.

The Fourth Parliament, Anno 21 James I., 1623, began February 9th, lasted to the 24th of May, following, prorogued to November 2nd, and thence to February 16th, and the King died March 24th, when it was dissolved.

Brecknockshire	.....	Henry Williams, Knight.
Ditto Villa	.....	Walter Pye, Knight.
Cardiganshire	.....	James Lewes, Esq.
Ditto Villa	.....	Rowland Pugh, Esq.
Caermarthenshire	.....	Richard Vaughan, Esq.
Ditto Villa	.....	Henry Vaughan, Esq.
Glamorganshire	.....	Robert Mansell, Knight, (Vice Admiral)
Cardiff Villa	.....	William Price, Esq.
Pembrokeshire	.....	James Perrot, Knight.
Ditto Villa	.....	Walter Deveraux, Esq.
Haverfordwest Villa	....	Lewes Powell, Gent.
Radnorshire	.....	James Price, Esq.
Ditto Villa	.....	Charles Price, Gent.

Anno 1, Charles I., 1625, began July 11th, when it was adjourned to Oxford, August 11th, and sat to the 12th, when it was dissolved.

Brecknockshire	Charles Vaughan, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Walter Pye, Knight.
Cardiganshire	James Lewis, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Rowland Pugh, Esq.
Glamorganshire	Robert Mansell, Esq.
Cardiff Villa	William Price, Esq.
Pembrokeshire	John Wogan, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Lewis Powell, Esq.
Haverfordwest Villa....	Thomas Cannon, Knight.
Radnorshire	James Price, of Pelleth, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Charles Price, Gent.

The Second Parliament, Anno 2 Charles I., began February 6th, 1626, continued to June 15th following, when it was dissolved.

Brecknockshire	John Price, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Walter Pye, Knight.
Cardiganshire	James Lewis, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Walter Overbury.
Caermarthenshire.....	Richard Vaughan, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Henry Vaughan, Esq.
Glamorganshire	John Stradling, Knight and Baronet.
Ditto Villa	William Price, Esq.
Pembrokeshire	Robert Wogan, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Hugh Owen, Esq.
Haverfordwest Villa....	Robert Gawen, Knight.
Radnorshire	James Price, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Charles Price, Esq.

The Third Parliament, Charles I., 1628, began March 16th, 1628, held to June 26th following. Second Sessions of this Parliament began January 20th, and held to March 2nd, when it was adjourned to March 10th, and then dissolved.

Brecknockshire.....	Henry Williams, Knight.
Ditto Villa	Walter Pye, Knight.
Caermarthenshire.....	Richard Vaughan, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Henry Vaughan, Esq.

Glamorganshire Robert Mansell, Knight and Baronet.

Cardiff Villa Lewis Morgan, Esq.

Pembrokeshire John Wogan, Esq.

Ditto Villa Hugh Owen, Esq.

Haverfordwest Villa.... James Parrot, Esq.

Radnorshire Richard Jones, Esq.

Ditto Villa Charles Price, Esq.

The Fourth Parliament, Anno 15, Charles 1., began April 13th, 1640, held May following, sitting twenty-eight days, and was then dissolved.

Brecknockshire William Morgan, Esq.

Ditto Villa Herbert Price, Esq.

Cardiganshire James Lewis, Esq.

Ditto Villa John Vaughan, Esq.

Caermarthenshire..... Henry Vaughan, Esq.

Ditto Villa Francis Lloyd, Esq.

Glamorganshire Edward Stradling, Knight and Baronet.

Cardiff Villa William Herbert, Esq.

Pembrokeshire John Wogan, sen., Esq.

Ditto Villa John Stepney, Esq.

Haverfordwest Villa.... Hugh Owen, Esq.

Radnorshire Charles Price, Esq.

Ditto Villa Richard Jones, Esq.

The Fifth Parliament, and last Anno 16, Charles I., 1640, began November 3rd, 1640, continued its sitting to April 20th, 1653, when it was dissolved.

Brecknockshire..... William Morgan. Esq.

Ditto Villa Herbert Price, and Ludovices Lewis,
Esqrs.

Cardiganshire Richard Price, Knight and Baronet.

Ditto Villa Walter Lloyd, Esq.

Caermarthenshire..... Henry Vaughan, and J. Lloyd, Esqrs.

Ditto Villa Francis Lloyd, and Wm. Davies, Esqrs.

Glamorganshire..... Phillip Lord Herbert.

Ditto Villa Wm. Herbert, and Algernon Sydney,
Esqrs.

Pembrokeshire	John Wogan, sen., and Arthur Owen, Esqrs.
Ditto Villa	Hugh Owen, Esq.
Haverfordwest Villa....	John Stepney, Bart., and R. Needham, Knight.
Radnorshire	Charles Price, and Arthur Annesley, Esqrs.
Ditto Villa	Phillip Warlock. and Robert Harley, Esqrs.

In the year 1653, a Parliament was convened by Oliver Cromwell, July 5th, called "The Little Parliament," but no burgesses or representatives for any cities were summoned except London, and only few returned for the counties in general. This Parliament sat to December, 1653.

WALES.

Bushy Mansell, Esq.	Hugh Courtney, Esq.
James Phillips, Esq.	Richard Price, Esq.
John Williams, Esq.	John Brown, Esq.

The Second Parliament, Anno 1654, began September 3rd, and held to January 22nd following.

Brecknockshire	Henry Lord Herbert, and Edmund Jones, Esq.
Cardiganshire	James Phillips, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Jenkin Lloyd, Esq.
Caermarthenshire	John Cleypole, Esq.
Ditto Villa	Rowland Dawkins, Esq.
Glamorganshire	Phillip Jones, one of His Highness's Council, and Edmund Thomas, Esq., of Wenvoe Castle.
Cardiff Villa	John Price, Esq.
Pembrokeshire	Sir Erasmus Phillips, of Picton Castle, Arthur Owen, Esq., New Moat,
Haverfordwest Villa....	John Upton, Esq.
Radnorshire	George Gwyn and Henry Williams, Esq.

The Third Parliament assembled June 26th, 1657, adjourned to January 20th, and after fifteen days, it was dissolved.

Brecknockshire Phillip Jones, Esq., one of His Highness's Council, (?) and Evan Lewis, Esq.

Cardiganshire James Phillips, and John Clark, Esqrs.

Caermarthenshire John Cleypole, and Rowland Dawkins, Esqrs.

Cardiff Villa John Price, Esq.

Pembrokeshire James Phillips, of Teergibby, county of Cardigan, and Col. John Clark, of Kensington, county of Middlesex.

Haverfordwest John Upton, Esq.

Radnorshire George Gwyn and Henry Williams, Esqrs.

Anno 1658-9, met January 27th, continued until October 13th, at which time it interrupted its sitting, assembled again December 26th, and sat until March 15th, when it was dissolved.

Anno 1640. New Parliament called April 26th. This Session called back the King, and restored the Church and State.

The Second Parliament, Charles II.

Brecknockshire Edmund Jones, Esq., His Highness's Attorney General for South Wales.

Ditto Villa Samuel Whitwick, Esq.

Cardiganshire —————

Ditto Villa —————

Caermarthenshire Thomas Hughes, Esq.

Ditto Villa Rowland Dawkins, Esq.

Glamorganshire Evan Seys, Sergeant at Law.

Cardiff Villa John Price, Esq.

Swansey William Foxwit, Esq.

Pembrokeshire Sir Erasmus Phillips, Bart.

Ditto Villa Sampson Lort, and Arthur Owen, Esqrs.

Haverfordwest Villa John Upton, Esq.

Radnorshire Hugh Williams, Esq.

Ditto Villa Robert Weaver, Esq.

